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Art. 1. ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Messrs. Editors,

I have already called the attention of your readers to the story of Lady Harriet Ackland, as related by General Burgoyne in his "State of the Expedition from Canada," laid before the British House of Commons in 1780, and by General Wilkinson in his interesting "Memoirs of his own Times." A not less vivid nor less intimidating picture of the horrors of war is exhibited in the following extract from the Memoirs of the Baroness de Reidesel, for which we are again indebted to General Wilkinson. An apology may be due to him, for availing myself so largely of his labours; none I am sure will be required from me by your readers for the liberty I have taken. General Wilkinson's introductory remarks, I shall also borrow, as more appropriate than any thing I could say.

"I shall conclude this chapter," says General Wilkinson, "with the following extract from a narrative published in the German language at Berlin, in 1800. It is from the pen of the amiable, the accomplished and dignified Baroness Reidesel, whose charming blue eyes I have more than once seen bedewed with tears at the recital of her sufferings. This lady, with two infant children, accompanied her husband Major-General the Baron Reidesel from Germany to England, from England to Canada, and from the last place to the termination of General Burgoyne's campaign, in which she suffered more than the horrors of the grave in their most frightful aspect; an imperfect translation does not render justice to the style of Madame Reidesel, but the artless interesting tale furnishes strong proof of its authenticity. I trust I shall be pardoned for presenting it to my fair readers, and whilst it serves to explain and wind up some of the distressing scenes which were passing in the enemy's camp, at and after the actions I have been describing, it furnishes a glimpse of the horrors of war. I trust it may warn my charming countrywomen against the miseries to which the highly accomplished authoress, and her interesting friend and fellow sufferer, Lady Harriet Ackland, were so imminently exposed. Would to heaven that it might produce another effect, which I consider vitally essential to the permanent tranquillity of these states; were my honoured countrywomen to consult patriot duty and personal happiness, they would avert their eyes from, and shut their ears to

"The neighing steed and the loud trump,
"The spirit stirring drum, and the shrill fife,
"The royal banner, and all quality,
"Pride, pomp, and circumstance of glorious war."

And then no more would exterior trappings and a flippant air seduce the heart from the contemplation of the social virtues, of improved understanding and refined sensibility; robbed of their PRAISE and their PATRONAGE, the overwhelming thirst for military glory would be allayed, and excellence in the more solid and useful pursuits of civil life would excite the rivalry of the rising generation; and the great cause of morality and religion would be promoted to support the constitution of our country; and to the honour of the American fair it might be said, that they tamed

"——————— the spirit of wild war,
"That like a lion fostered up at hand,
"It may lie gently at the foot of peace."

Extract from the Baroness Reidesel's Narrative.

"As we had to march still further, I ordered a large calash to be built capable of holding my three children, myself, and two female servants; in this manner we moved with the army in the midst of the soldiery, who were very merry, singing songs and panting for action. We had to travel through almost impassable woods and a most picturesque

and beautiful country, which was abandoned by its inhabitants who had repaired to the standard of General Gates; they added much to his strength, as they were all good marksmen, and fitted by habit for the species of warfare the contending parties were then engaged in—and the love of their country inspired them with more than ordinary courage. The army had shortly to encamp: I generally remained about an hour's march in the rear, where I received daily visits from my husband; the army was frequently engaged in small affairs, but nothing of importance took place; and as the season was getting cold, Major Williams of the artillery proposed to have a house built for me with a chimney, observing that it would not cost more than five or six guineas, and that the frequent change of quarters was very inconvenient to me: it was accordingly built, and was called the Block house, from its square form, and the resemblance it bore to those buildings.

"On the 19th September an affair happened, which, although it turned out to our advantage, yet obliged us to halt at a place called Freeman's farm; I was an eye witness to the whole affair, and as my husband was engaged in it, I was full of anxiety, and trembled at every shot I heard; I saw a great number of the wounded, and what added to the distress of the scene, three of them were brought into the house in which I took shelter; one was a Major Harnage of the 62d British regiment, the husband of a lady of my acquaintance, another was a Lieutenant married to a lady with whom I had the honour to be on terms of intimacy, and the third was an officer of the name of Young.

"In a short time afterwards I heard groans proceeding from a room near mine, and knew they must have been occasioned by the sufferings of the last mentioned officer, who lay writhing in his wounds.

"His mournful situation interested me much, and the more so, because the recollection of many polite attentions, received from a family of that name during my visit to England, was still forcibly impressed on my mind. I sent to him and begged him to accept my best services, and afterwards furnished him with food and refreshments; he expressed a great desire to see me, politely calling me his benefactress. I accordingly visited him, and found him lying on a little straw, as he had lost his equipage. He was a young man 18 or 19 years of age, and really the beloved nephew of the Mr. Young, the head of the family I have mentioned, and the only son of his parents. This last circumstance was what he lamented most, as to his pain he thought lightly of it. He had lost much blood, and it was thought necessary to amputate the leg, but this he would not consent to, and of course a mortification took place. I sent him cushions and coverings, and my female friends sent him a matress. I redoubled my attention to him, and visited him every day, for which I received a thousand wishes for my happiness. At last his limb was amputated, but it was too late, and he died the following day. As he lay in the next room to me, and the partition was very thin, I distinctly heard his last sigh, when his immortal part quitted its frail tenement, and I trust, winged its way to the mansions of eternal bliss.

"But severer trials awaited us, and on the 7th October our misfortunes began; I was at breakfast with my husband, and heard that something was intended. On the same day I expected Generals Burgoyne, Phillips and Fraser to dine with us. I saw a great movement among the troops; my husband told me it was merely a reconnoisance, which gave me no concern, as it often happened. I walked out of the house and met several Indians in their war dresses, with guns in their hands. When I asked them where they were going, they cried out War! War! (meaning that they were going to battle.) This filled me with apprehension, and I had scarcely got home before I heard reports of cannon and musketry, which grew louder by degrees, till at last the noise became excessive. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon, instead of the guests whom I expected, General Fraser was brought on a litter mortally wounded. The table, which was already set, was instantly removed, and a bed placed in its stead for the wounded general. I sat trembling in a corner; the noise grew louder, and the alarm increased; the thought that my husband might perhaps be brought in, wounded in the same manner, was terrible to me, and distressed me exceedingly. General Fraser said to the surgeon, "*tell me if my wound is mortal, do not flatter me.*" The ball had passed through his body, and unhappily for the General, he had eaten a very hearty breakfast, by which the stomach was distended, and the ball, as the surgeon said, had passed through it. I heard him often exclaim with a sigh, "OH FATAL AMBITION! POOR GENERAL BURGOYNE! OH MY POOR WIFE!" He was asked if he had any request to make, to which he replied, that "IF GENERAL BURGOYNE WOULD PERMIT IT, HE SHOULD LIKE TO BE BURIED AT 6 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING, ON THE TOP OF A MOUNTAIN, IN A REDOUBT WHICH HAD BEEN BUILT THERE." I did not know which way to turn, all the other rooms were full of sick. Towards evening I saw my husband coming, then I forgot all my sorrows, and thanked God that he was spared to me. He ate in great haste with me, and his aid-de-camp behind the house. We had been told that we had the advantage of the enemy, but the sorrowful faces I beheld told a different tale, and before my husband went away he took me on one side, and said every thing was going very bad, that I must keep myself in readiness to leave the place, but not to mention it to any one. I made the pretence that I would move the next morning into my new house, and had every thing packed up ready.

"Lady H. Ackland had a tent not far from our house, in this she slept, and the rest of

the day she was in the camp. All of a sudden a man came to tell her that her husband was mortally wounded and taken prisoner; on hearing this she became very miserable, we comforted her by telling her that the wound was only slight, and at the same time advised her to go over to her husband, to do which she would certainly obtain permission, and then she could attend him herself; she was a charming woman, and very fond of him. I spent much of the night in comforting her, and then went again to my children, whom I had put to bed. I could not go to sleep, as I had General Fraser and all the other wounded gentlemen in my room, and I was sadly afraid my children would awake, and by their crying disturb the dying man in his last moments, who often addressed me and apologised "*for the trouble he gave me.*' About 3 o'clock in the morning I was told he could not hold out much longer; I had desired to be informed of the near approach of this sad crisis, and I then wrapped up my children in their clothes, and went with them into the room below. About 8 o'clock in the morning *he died.* After he was laid out and his corpse wrapped up in a sheet we came again into the room, and had this sorrowful sight before us the whole day, and to add to the melancholy scene, almost every moment some officer of my acquaintance was brought in wounded. The cannonade commenced again; a retreat was spoken of, but not the smallest motion was made towards it. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon I saw the house which had just been built for me in flames, and the enemy was now not far off. We knew that General Burgoyne would not refuse the last request of General Fraser, though by his acceding to it, an unnecessary delay was occasioned, by which the inconvenience of the army was much increased. At 6 o'clock the corpse was brought out, and we saw all the Generals attend it to the mountain; the chaplain, Mr. Brudenell, performed the funeral service, rendered unusually solemn and awful from its being accompanied by constant peals from the enemy's artillery. Many cannon balls flew close by me, but I had my eyes directed towards the mountain,* where my husband was standing, amidst the fire of the enemy, and of course, I could not think of my own danger.

"General Gates afterwards said, that if he had known it had been a funeral he would not have permitted it to be fired on.

"As soon as the funeral service was finished, and the grave of General Fraser was closed, an order was issued that the army should retreat. My calash was prepared, but I would not consent to go before the troops. Major Harnage, although suffering from his wounds, crept from his bed, as he did not wish to remain in the hospital, which was left with a flag of truce. When General Reidesel saw me in the midst of danger, he ordered my women and children to be brought into the calash, and intimated to me to depart without delay. I still prayed to remain, but my husband knowing my weak side, said, "well then your children must go, that at least they may be safe from danger." I then agreed to enter the calash with them, and we set off at eight o'clock.

"The retreat was ordered to be conducted with the greatest silence, many fires were lighted, and several tents left standing; we travelled continually during the night. At six o'clock in the morning we halted, which excited the surprise of all; General Burgoyne had the cannon ranged and counted; this delay seemed to displease every body, for if we could only have made another good march we should have been in safety. My husband, quite exhausted with fatigue, came into my calash and slept for three hours; during that time Captain Willoe brought me a bag full of bank notes, and Captain Geismar his elegant watch, a ring, and a purse full of money, which they requested me to take care of, and which I promised to do to the utmost of my power. We again marched, but had scarcely proceeded an hour before we halted, as the enemy was in sight; it proved to be only a reconnoitering party of two hundred men, who might easily have been made prisoners, if General Burgoyne had given proper orders on the occasion.

"The Indians had now lost their courage, and were departing for their homes; these people appeared to droop much under adversity, and especially when they had no prospect of plunder. One of my waiting women was in a state of despair which approached to madness; she cursed and tore her hair, and when I attempted to reason with her and to pacify her, she asked me if I was not grieved at our situation, and upon my saying "I was," she tore her cap off her head and let her hair drop over her face, saying to me, "it is very easy for you to be composed and talk, you have your husband with you, I have none, and what remains to me but the prospect of perishing or losing all I have;" I again bade her to take comfort, and assured her I would make good whatever she might happen to lose, and I made the same promise to Ellen, my other waiting woman, who, though filled with apprehensions, made no complaints.

"About evening we arrived at Saratoga; my dress was wet through and through with rain, and in that state I had to remain the whole night, having no place to change it; I however got close to a large fire, and at last lay down on some straw. At this moment General Phillips came up to me, and I asked him why we had not continued our retreat, as my husband had promised to cover it and bring the army through? "Poor dear woman," said he, "I wonder how, drenched as you are, you have the courage still to persevere and venture further in this kind of weather; I wish," continued he, "you was our commanding general, General Burgoyne is

* The height occupied by Burgoyne on the 13th, which ran parallel with the river until it approached General Gates's camp.

tired, and means to halt here to-night and give us our supper."

"On the morning of the 7th, at ten o'clock, General Burgoyne ordered the retreat to be continued, and caused the handsome houses and mills of General Schuyler to be burnt; we marched however but a short distance, and then halted. The greatest misery at this time prevailed in the army, and more than thirty officers came to me, for whom tea and coffee was prepared, and with whom I shared all my provisions, with which my calash was in general well supplied; for I had a cook who was an excellent caterer, and who often in the night crossed small rivers and foraged on the inhabitants, bringing in with him sheep, small pigs, and poultry, for which he very often forgot to pay, though he received good pay from me as long as I had any, and was ultimately handsomely rewarded. Our provisions now failed us for want of proper conduct in the commissary's department, and I began to despair. About two o'clock in the afternoon we again heard a firing of cannon and small arms; instantly all was alarm, and every thing in motion. My husband told me to go to a house not far off; I immediately seated myself in my calash with my children, and drove off; but scarcely had we reached it before I discovered five or six armed men on the other side of the Hudson; instinctively I threw my children down in the calash, and then concealed myself with them; at that moment the fellows fired and wounded an already wounded English soldier, who was behind me; poor fellow, I pitied him exceedingly, but at that moment had no means or power to relieve him. A terrible cannonade was commenced by the enemy, which was directed against the house in which I sought to obtain shelter for myself and children, under the mistaken idea that all the Generals were in it. Alas! it contained none but wounded and women; we were at last obliged to resort to the cellar for refuge, and in one corner of this I remained the whole day, my children sleeping on the earth with their heads in my lap; and in the same situation I passed a sleepless night.—Eleven cannon balls passed through the house, and we could distinctly hear them roll away. One poor soldier who was lying on a table, for the purpose of having his leg amputated, was struck by a shot which carried away his other: his comrades had left him, and when we went to his assistance we found him in a corner of the room, into which he had crept more dead than alive, scarcely breathing. My reflections on the danger to which my husband was exposed now agonized me exceedingly, and the thoughts of my children and the necessity of struggling for their preservation alone sustained me.

"The ladies of the army who were with me were, Mrs. Harnage, a Mrs. Kennels, the widow of a lieutenant who was killed, and the lady of the commissary. Major Harnage, his wife, and Mrs. Kennels, made a little room in a corner with curtains to it, and wished to do the same for me, but I preferred being near the door, in case of fire. Not far off my women slept, and opposite to us three English officers, who, though wounded, were determined not to be left behind; one of them was Captain Green, an aid-de-camp to Major-General Phillips, a very valuable officer and most agreeable man. They each made me a most sacred promise not to leave me behind, and in case of a sudden retreat, that they would each of them take one of my children on his horse, and for myself, one of my husband's was in constant readiness.

"Our cook, whom I have before mentioned, procured us our meals, but we were in want of water, and I was often obliged to drink wine and to give it to my children. It was the only thing my husband took, which made our faithful hunter (Rockel) express one day his apprehensions, that "the General was weary of his life, or fearful of being taken, as he drank so much wine." The constant danger which my husband was in kept me in a state of wretchedness, and I asked myself if it was possible I should be the only happy one, and have my husband spared to me unhurt, exposed as he was to so many perils. He never entered his tent, but laid down whole nights by the watch fires; this alone was enough to have killed him, the cold was so intense.

"The want of water distressed us much: at length we found a soldier's wife who had courage enough to fetch us some from the river, an office nobody else would undertake, as the Americans shot at every person who approached it, but out of respect for her sex they never molested her.

"I now occupied myself through the day in attending the wounded; I made them tea and coffee, and often shared my dinner with them, for which they offered me a thousand expressions of gratitude. One day a Canadian officer came to our cellar, who had scarcely the power of holding himself upright, and we concluded he was dying for want of nourishment; I was happy in offering him my dinner, which strengthened him, and procured me his friendship. I now undertook the care of Major Bloomfield,* another aid-de-camp of General Phillips, he had received a musket ball through both cheeks, which in its course had knocked out several of his teeth, and cut his tongue, he could hold nothing in his mouth, the matter which ran from his wound almost choaked him, and he was not able to take any nourishment except a little soup, or something liquid; we had some Rhenish wine, and in the hope that the acidity of it would cleanse his wound, I gave him a bottle of it, he took a little now and then, and with such effect, that his cure soon followed; thus I added another to my stock of friends, and derived a satisfaction which, in the midst of sufferings, served to tranquilize me and diminish their acuteness.

* Now member of Parliament for Plymouth, major-general in the army, lieutenant-colonel of the royal artillery, chief equerry and clerk martial to the king.

"One day General Phillips accompanied my husband, at the risk of their lives, on a visit to us, who, after having witnessed our situation, said to him. "I would not for 10,000 guineas come again to this place, my heart is almost broken."

"In this horrid situation we remained six days, a cessation of hostilities was now spoken of, and eventually took place; a convention was afterwards agreed upon; but one day a message was sent to my husband, who had visited me and was reposing in my bed, to attend a council of war, where it was proposed to break the convention, but to my great joy, the majority was for adhering to it; on the 16th, however, my husband had to repair to his post, and I to my cellar; this day fresh beef was served out to the officers, who until now had only had salt provision, which was very bad for their wounds. The good woman who brought us water, made us an excellent soup of the meat, but I had lost my appetite, and took nothing but crusts of bread dipped in wine. The wounded officers (my unfortunate companions) cut off the best bit and presented it to me on a plate. I declined eating any thing, but they contended that it was necessary for me to take nourishment, and declared they would not touch a morsel until I afforded them the pleasure of seeing me partake; I could no longer withstand their pressing invitations, accompanied as they were by assurances of the happiness they had in offering me the first good thing they had in their power, and I partook of a repast rendered palatable by the kindness and good will of my fellow-sufferers, forgetting for the moment the misery of our apartment and the absence of almost every comfort.

"On the 17th October the convention was completed. General Burgoyne and the other generals waited on the American general (Gates;) the troops laid down their arms, and gave themselves up prisoners of war! and now the good woman who had supplied us with water at the hazard of her life, received the reward of her services; each of us threw a handful of money into her apron, and she got altogether about twenty guineas. At such a moment as this, how susceptible is the heart of feelings of gratitude!

"My husband sent a message to me to come over to him with my children. I seated myself once more in my dear calash, and then rode through the American camp. As I passed on, I observed (and this was a great consolation to me) that no one eyed me with looks of resentment, but that they all greeted us, and even showed compassion in their countenances, at the sight of a woman with small children. I was, I confess, afraid to go over to the enemy, as it was quite a new situation to me. When I drew near the tents, a handsome man approached and met me, *took my children from the calash, and hugged and kissed them, which affected me almost to tears.* "You tremble," said he, addressing himself to me, "be not afraid." "No," I answered, "you seem so kind and tender to my children, it inspires me with courage." He now led me to the tent of General Gates, where I found Generals Burgoyne and Phillips, who were on a friendly footing with the former. Burgoyne said to me, "Never mind, your sorrows have now an end." I answered him that I should be reprehensible to have any cares, as he had none; and I was pleased to see him on such a friendly footing with General Gates. All the generals remained to dine with General Gates.

"The same gentleman who received me so kindly, now came and said to me, "You will be very much embarrassed to eat with all these gentlemen; *Come with your children to my tent, where I will prepare for you a frugal dinner, and give it with a free will.*" I said, "YOU ARE CERTAINLY A HUSBAND AND A FATHER, *you have shewn me so much kindness.*" I now found that he was GENERAL SCHUYLER. He treated me with excellent smoked tongue, beef steaks, potatoes, and good bread and butter! Never could I have wished to eat a better dinner: I was content: I saw all around me were so likewise; and what was better than all, my husband was out of danger! When we had dined, he told me his residence was at Albany, and that General Burgoyne intended to honour him as his guest, and invited myself and children to do so likewise. I asked my husband how I should act; he told me to accept the invitation. As it was two days' journey there, he advised me to go to a place which was about three hours ride distant. General Schuyler had the politeness to send with me a French officer, a very agreeable man, who commanded the reconnoitring party of which I have before spoken; and when he had escorted me to the house where I was to remain, he turned back again. In the house I found a French surgeon, who had under his care a Brunswick officer, who was mortally wounded, and died some days afterwards. The Frenchman boasted much of the care he took of his patient, and perhaps was skilful enough as a surgeon, but otherwise was a mere simpleton: he was rejoiced when he found out I could speak his language, and began to address many empty and impertinent speeches to me; said, among other things, he could not believe that I was a general's wife, as he was certain a woman of such rank would not follow her husband: he wished me to remain with him, as he said it was better to be with the conquerors than the conquered. I was shocked at his impudence, but dared not show the contempt and disdain I felt for him, because it would deprive me of a place of safety! Towards evening he begged me to take a part of his chamber: I told him I was determined to remain in the room with the wounded officers; whereupon he attempted to pay me some stupid compliments. *At this moment the door opened, and my husband with his aid-de-camp entered.* I then said "Here, Sir, is my husband;" and at the same time eyed him with

scorn, whereupon he retired abashed; nevertheless he was *so politeas* to offer his chamber to us.

"Some days after this we arrived at Albany, where we so often wished ourselves; but we did not enter it as we expected we should—victors! We were received *by the good General Schuyler, his wife and daughters*, not as enemies, but kind friends, and they treated us with the most marked attention and politeness, as they did General Burgoyne, who had caused General Schuyler's beautifully finished house to be burnt; in fact they behaved like persons of exalted minds, who determined to bury all recollection of *their own* injuries in the contemplation of *our* misfortunes. General Burgoyne was struck with General Schuyler's generosity and said to him, "*You shew me great kindness, although I have done you much injury.*" "*That was the fate of war.*" replied the brave man, "*let us say no more about it.*"

With your permission I will furnish for your next number, as a proper sequel to this account of the Baroness De Reidesel, General Burgoyne's eloquent description of the obsequies of General Fraser.

Yours, &c.
HISTORICUS.

The following letter from Judge Mitchill, on the subject of the cultivation of the Locust Tree, has been communicated to us by Dr. Akerly, from whom we lately received a valuable paper on the same subject.

Plandome, 1st November, 1817.

To Dr. Samuel Akerly,

DEAR SIR,

When you visited Plandome, in July last, I recollect your admiring my Nursery of young Locust Trees at that time about a foot high. The growing season is now over, and I can inform you that their appearance exceeds my most sanguine expectation.

I planted the seeds about the first of April last, in the manner before stated to you, and have now many thousands of young Locust Trees, that have grown from four to six feet, very straight and beautiful, during the short period of seven months.

I have much to expect from these trees if they improve hereafter as they have done this season, of which I have no doubt. The rows are now four feet apart, and I intend next April to thin them out, so as to leave them about four feet in the rows, and keep them in that position about three seasons, when I think they will be large enough to set out into forests or any other place that is proper or convenient.

It has long been a source of wonder to me, that the Locust Tree is so little cultivated as it is. It is certainly one of the most valuable our country affords, whether we consider it with reference to ship timber, other buildings, or for fencing. I have never been able fairly to ascertain how long it will last for fencing, although I have made it the subject of inquiry: one reason is, that very few persons live a sufficient age to witness the fixing of a locust post, and to see its decay or rot. My opinion is that from 50 to 80 years may be safely calculated on; when a chesnut post in the same exposure will rot in 15 years, or less.

The little attention that has been given to the culture of the Locust Tree, is more to be wondered at, when we consider with what very little trouble it is cultivated, particularly after the trees have grown to a considerable size, and your ground properly prepared for it. As you cut off the timber you wish to dispose of, or make use of, by keeping the ground enclosed it immediately grows up into a thicket, and in 25 or 30 years it will be fit to cut again, and by adopting this plan they may be kept growing at pleasure.

I have some facts and opinions on the subject of the Peach Tree, which I will make known to you in a future communication. Hoping these hints, through you, may be useful,

I remain your obedient servant,
SINGLETON MITCHILL.

Letters of a Traveller to his friends in England.

DEAR ——,

Our voyage, I should suppose, was attended with more, and more harassing, disasters than any since the transit of Columbus; and since it occupied ninety days, employed a considerably longer period. Four weeks were wasted in the channel—gales and head-winds were almost constantly prevalent—the vessel laboured miserably in that narrow water; and so irrepressible and pervasive was the sickness occasioned by this awkward and unruly motion, that but very few of the passengers were able to appear upon deck. During this period, however, we enjoyed some scattered days of mild and beautiful weather. The first two or three days from Gravesend were calm and sunshiny—the air soft and soothing—and the English coast, now rising in abrupt

precipitancy over the subject waves, and again sinking into softer and more graceful outlines, sprinkled with villages and hamlets, (to which occasionally we approached so near that the sound of the church-bells swelled audibly on the breeze,) and opening into plains and ascending woodlands, sweeping upward till their massy and mingled shades blended in indistinct beauty with the horizon: such was the weather—such the general aspect of the scenery, till we reached the lofty and snow-white promontory of Beachy Head. But the interest with which we gazed on the various attractions of the ever changing landscape was refined and exalted by a most delightful and unexpected contingency. Among the passengers in the steerage were several Germans and Italians, who performed, and with taste and skill, upon various instruments, the flute, violin, &c. At the request of the cabin passengers, these kind hearted wanderers came forward, and gave us several charming airs, some English, but more frequently the touching and captivating melodies of their native regions. We found these simple people as well acquainted with the scientific and ethereal compositions of Haydn and Mozart, and Jomelli, and Geminiani, as our ruder peasantry with the vulgar ditties that constitute their only music:—Oh! tell me, you whose mind and feelings, my dear ————, render you so capable of appreciating the influence of sweet sounds—is there not something in the climate of the South that gives to the music of its children a pathos, denied (with few exceptions) to the more frigid and regular strains of the North? The delicious and picturesque scenery of those romantic climes—their pure glowing skies, and the constitutional gayety of their offspring; do not all these conspire to instil into their music a deeper and more affecting influence than breathes in the harmony of less favoured lands? So at least, I thought when gliding in light and serenity, past the coast of my native country, I listened to the martial minstrelsy of the Tyrol—or drank with eager ear the brilliant and fascinating melodies of Saxony and Bavaria; or reclining, in the purple beauty of the evening, over the sides of the ship, felt the notes of that sweet pensive composition, the Hymn to the Virgin, thrilling in every fibre of my frame—and wished—how vainly! that instead of the cold speculation that has blighted so many of the fairest flowers in the path of life, the nobler and more sensitive spirits of the world were trained in that undoubting and consoling belief that keeps the heart ever open and alive to the purest and, at the same time, most delightful and animating sentiments and impressions—and imbues the scenes of earthly existence with colours more bright and glorious than those of the rainbow—and leaves reason to direct her energies to better purposes than the derision of her God—and sheds on the high way and mansions of eternity so blessed a radiance, that the light of ten thousand suns would glimmer like tapers in those illustrious and immortal abodes! My letter from Yarmouth gave you the particulars of my ramble through the Eastern section of the Isle of Wight—but I think I forgot to inform you that we returned so late in the evening, that on reaching Ryde, we found the ship had been several hours proceeding on her voyage. We thought we had lost our passage, it was nearly eleven o'clock, the waves looked black and stormy—the boats were all drawn up on the shore—and most of their masters had retired to their beds. We wandered, in no pleasant mood you may suppose—on the beach: at length we fell in with a boatman and his son. We related our case—"Will you put off with us?"—"if you'll make it worth our while"—"Will triple your usual fare satisfy you?"—"Yes"—"Hawl out your boat"—and in less than five minutes we were again upon the element we had so lately quitted—and which, on the morning we left the ship, smiled in placid lustre, but seemed now, by the boisterous tossing of its waves, to reproach our imprudent wanderings in the lovely Isle from which we were rapidly receding. The people of our frail bark had expressed, and continued to express, such perfect conviction of reaching the ship, that we would not suffer our spirits to decline; we talked, and joked, and laughed; and disturbed as was my mind, and in wrath as I was with myself for having yielded to "*the voice of the tempter*," I could not be wholly insensible to the troubled beauty of the surrounding scene: the heavens were shrouded with dark-browed clouds, that as they swept their swarthy volumes through the atmosphere, revealed the pure azure of the firmament, studded

———— "With those isles of light,
So wildly, spiritually bright;"

while on the black edge of the horizon the moon shewed her globular and sanguinary aspect—and the light-house of

Ryde and Gosport sent across the waters a wild and crimson gleam—and the rough surges over which we bounded were dashed by the velocity of the boat into countless, momentary, yet ever springing fires—and the wind whistled in our sail with a ferocity that suited admirably with the fierce and disordered features of the night.

Thus we proceeded for some hours, cherishing the hope, that, at length, spite of all our efforts, began to wane. The boatmen, however, were still confident, nay, they discerned, they said, the light that is suspended at the mast head, on the expected or possible return of absent passengers:—but now, wet, weary, and exhausted—I felt the approach of despondency. I threw myself in the bottom of the boat, and resigned myself to the contemplation of the dilemma into which my folly had betrayed me. My thoughts, in that hour of dreariness and desolation, would not have excited the envy of the poorest man in England. Silently I ruminated upon the situation in which it seemed probable I should be placed by that unfortunate gratification of a desire abstractedly blameless, but to which circumstances conspired to give an air of utter inconsiderateness. In the midst of these gloomy meditations I was roused by the exclamation of my companion and the boatmen—"the vessel——is in sight," and at the sound I started:—yes—it was the ship. The captain—the mate—perceive us—"Lie-to for the truants"—and once more we stand upon the crowded and rejoicing deck of the Mary-Ann. At that moment I felt like Robinson Crusoe when he regained his Island: but the impression this adventure produced was too vivid to die away on its termination, and night after night was my sleep disturbed by its fancied repetition.

Immediately on our regaining the ship, her sails were unfurled, and she went forward, for some few hours, with all the canvass she could muster. But the wind, propitious during the night changed its direction with the break of day, and it was only with extreme difficulty, and continual tacking that we could make any advance against the strong blasts from the west. Yet it was rather by the shifting of the wind, than the quarter from which it blew, that we were prevented from proceeding on our course; we could not count upon its continuance in any point for half an hour—and for another week we wandered to and fro over the waves—the dull, listless victims of *ennui*, that was rarely relieved by any favourable change in the circumstances of the vessel. Once we gained the neighbourhood of Torbay, but were compelled to retrace almost the whole of our course from that port to Yarmouth,* where at length we lay to, as well for the purpose of recruiting our stores, as to wait for a steady breeze from the east.

During my stay at Yarmouth I was introduced to a gentleman of the name of Mitchill, to whose polite and ever friendly attentions, as well as those of his amiable lady, I am indebted for much of the pleasure attached to my second visit to the Isle of Wight. In his youth Mr. Mitchill had been appointed to one of the civil stations of British India; he had travelled through and seen much of that interesting portion of Asia—his memory is still surprisingly retentive—his knowledge of Eastern history, manners, customs, literature, prejudices, and superstition, evinces an observing and even studious disposition—and in our conversations upon oriental topics, the natural cheerfulness of my venerable host warmed into unusual vivacity. We canvassed together the records of the Arsacidæ and Sassanides, traced the footsteps of the homicide Timour in the march of the nobler Macedonian—and mourned over the fallen grandeur of Agra and Delhi. With the abasing despotism of their ancient masters, we compared the ease and security enjoyed by the natives under the benignant sway of their British Rulers, and found reason to rejoice in the establishment of a government, and the possible extension of a religion, beneath whose united auspices the children of Brahma may at length be led to the knowledge of political and divine truth. Of poetry Mr. M. is an ardent admirer. With the writings of our old and modern schools he is almost equally familiar; conscious as I am of my own inability to produce lines worthy of any thing more than a transient existence, the frankness with which he exhibited his own efforts in that and its sister art of painting, encouraged me to submit to his perusal some manuscript verses I had brought with me; among them were a few unfinished stanzas written, literally *extempore*, on the sailing of the Mary-Ann from Gravesend. With these he had the

* A market town in the Isle of Wight, in the County of Hampshire—containing about 1500 inhabitants. The town offers nothing to gratify the curiosity of the traveller; but the walks in its vicinity abound in the softer charms of nature, while the extraordinary fertility of the soil repays the labourer, in some of the objects of agriculture, a hundred for one.

politeness to express himself pleased. I venture to send them to you—not from an idea that they possess any superior claims to the approbation of so excellent a judge as yourself, but rather from the feeling that what I showed to a casual, though interesting acquaintance, should not be withheld from one who has every claim to my lasting and most respectful affection.

Lines on the departure of the Mary-Ann from Gravesend for the United States.

Fresh from the shore blows the steady gale,
And the sun is bright upon the sea:
The Mary-Ann's white and swelling sail
Shines o'er the waters gloriously.
The bright Atlantic's beauteous guest,
She sails in a track of light to the West.

Heaven speed the gallant ship, for she bears
In her bosom the anxious hopes of those
Who flee from Europe's oppression and cares,
To lands where liberty lives and glows:
Where nature's god has reared himself a shrine,
Fit for the worship of a Power Divine.

Brilliant the heavens, and smiling the seas,
The Mary-Ann bounds before the breeze—
Like a falcon, loos'd from the keeper's wrist,
She flies, while the winds blow as they list.
The gale in her shrouds is a blithesome guest,
And the vessel seems still, though not at rest,
So swiftly the winds in a waveless line,
Bear her bravely on through the sparkling brine.
Each heart is joyous—each eye is glistening—
And hands are waving—and ears are listening
To catch the faint, but fond farewell
That breathes in the gale's increasing swell.

Yet is there one, whose mute and mournful air
Seems like a cloud upon the gladness there;
The joy around he neither shares nor heeds,
And silence wraps a heart that inly bleeds—
A heavenly face, with eyes of floating light,
Is gleaming on his mind's enamour'd sight.
Falsehood—ay—worse than falsehood—stains her name,
And scandal's fangs are fasten'd on her fame,
Yet in his soul her vision'd beauty glows
With all the lustre that perfection knows—

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The virtue and piety that are content to operate and diffuse themselves in secret it is the delightful duty of every just and liberal mind to bring into more general notice. The severe sufferings of the poor in Mr. Mitchill's neighbourhood, in consequence of the inclement winters that have of late years afflicted not England merely, but nearly the whole of Europe, have been considerably alleviated by that gentleman's substantial generosity; at the same time that he has not been unmindful of the deficiencies existing in the state of their religious instruction. For the purpose of inculcating in the poor of his vicinity sounder notions of efficient and practical christianity, and creating among them a deeper reverence for its doctrines, he has fitted up in his villa at Freshwater (about half a mile from Yarmouth) two communicating apartments, as a sort of chapel, in which, after the usual prayers, his *lady* pronounces, weekly, a discourse or exhortation on a scriptural text, to an audience composed principally of labourers and peasantry. The effects of this excellent institution are already visible in the ameliorated morals of the working classes; and such is the influence of Mrs. Mitchill, and the respect she has ensured to herself by her pious exertions, that not only are her meetings attended by many of her wealthy neighbours, but the poor, from a distance of several miles, are in the habit of repairing every Saturday to Norton Cottage, to listen to the discourses of their worthy benefactress.

In my next I will relate every thing that I can suppose interesting to you with respect to our passage across the Atlantic, and endeavour to give you some idea of the beautiful city of Boston, in which port we anchored at the close of October last.

I am, &c.

G. F. B.

New-York, November 26th, 1817.

To the Editors of the American Monthly Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

Noticing an attack on my Nautical Almanacks, from one Edward Hitchcock, a few remarks only are necessary to explain the man's drift.

He says my Almanack for 1816, page 16, at the bottom, had the number 12 instead of 21. It may not be improper to inform the reader that the fourth page of every month, in the Nautical Almanack, contains the following figures at the bottom of the left hand column, viz. 1, 11, 21. After the form was made perfectly correct, the figures 21 were drawn out by the balls, and the pressman, through mistake, transposed them, and a few copies were printed 12; but I have now on hand 200 copies of that year, not one of which contains the error he points out.

The second error he has pointed out, viz. immersions instead of emersions, was corrected previous to the publication of the work.

He continues;—"Blunt's Edition for

1816 deviates from the English copy in Five Chronological Cycles, twelve Ember days, and twelve moveable Feasts." This declaration of Mr. Hitchcock at once exposes him. It is not true; before three respectable persons I have compared my edition with the English, and find it corresponds in every particular.

He then goes on to say that, in my Almanack for 1817, I have used the sign Virgo for that of Scorpio. There is such a similarity between the two characters as to offer some excuse for this neglect, and he admits, as a reason why he discovered it, *the fact that it was not possible.*

He then endeavours to impress on the public the belief of his having corrected all the errors in the English Nautical Almanack for 1818, merely because he has, in the pursuit of his business, discovered a few of minor importance. The fact is, I republish the Nautical Almanac for the use of Navigators, and I offer "ten dollars for the discovery of an error in the figures." I commenced the work in 1811, and in no instance have I printed a wrong figure; the pages he refers to are used generally by Astronomers, and although I would willingly bestow every reasonable attention to make those pages correct, that he might *copy* rather than be at the trouble of *calculating*, still I would rather ten errors should escape me *there*, than one by which the mariner should be deceived. I am led to this remark by his shameful neglect, in the examination of that Almanack, and shall point out errors which I have corrected in my edition, of more importance to the mariner than all the services he ever rendered that useful class of society. The errors are, page 7, Jan. 25, Proportional Logarithms for noon, *for* 5974 *read* 4974. Page 50, May 8, Equation of time, *for* 4, 43, 6 *read* 3, 43, 6. Page 52, lat. Georgian, *for* 8, 4. *read* 0, 4, Page 53, May 29, Longitude noon, *for* 0. 7. S. 25, *read* 0. 7. 8. 25. Page 98, Sept. 27, Sun's long. *for* 7. 3. 44. 57, *read* 6. 3. 44. 57. Page 103, Proportional Logarithm for noon, *for* 4033 *read* 4833; for midnight, *for* 4647 *read* 4947. Page 115, Oct. 9, Moon's Semidiameter (noon) *for* 1557 *read* 1657. These are errors important to be corrected, and it is a duty incumbent on every one to lend his aid toward perfection, and far more praise-worthy to admonish, than to draw a publisher before the public, who at least aims to deserve a share of general patronage. To close, the celebrated NEVIL MASKELYNE, Astronomer Royal, has been dead several years; since then the Nautical Almanack has not been so correctly published. We take it "for better for worse," and where an error is discovered, correct it; and I now challenge Mr. Hitchcock to point out one instance where I have deviated from the copy in a figure. If he does, he shall have the reward offered, which appears to be his aim. I will also thank him to publish the many letters he has received from me, and which are so "evasive and unsatisfactory." Perhaps others may understand them if he cannot. I have one from him, but, I shall only say that it has no tendency to prove that perfection is the lot of man.

Respectfully yours,

EDM. M. BLUNT.

December 1, 1817.

ART. 2. FLORA AMERICAE SEPTENTRIONALIS, *or a systematic arrangement and description of the Plants of North America, &c.* By Frederick Pursh, 2 vols. 8vo. with 24 Engravings. London, 1814.

EVER since the discovery of North America, the vegetable productions of this Continent have attracted the notice of European writers and botanists, travellers, and settlers. The Potato, Maize, and Tobacco, were in the first instance introduced into Europe, afterwards the stately trees and handsome shrubs which adorn our forests, and lastly most of our ornamental plants; and their value was much increased by the facility of their cultivation and naturalization. Gardeners and collectors have often been sent from England, France, and Germany, expressly for the purpose of collecting living plants and seeds, and many enlightened travellers have visited North America with the special intention of studying the plants which it produces. Through the exertions of those worthy collectors and visiters, our vegetables became gradually known, Cornut began by describing those of Canada; Banister, Mitchell, and Clayton, those of Virginia; Catesby, and Walter, those of the Carolinas; Cutler those of Massachusetts, &c. Linneus introduced into his works those collected and communicated by Kalm, Bartram, and Colden, from Pennsylvania and New-York; Aiton des-

cribed those cultivated in the Royal Garden of Kew, in England: Wildenow, those sent him by Muhlenberg, &c. But notwithstanding the merit of those labours, they were only partial, and no general work on the vegetable productions of North America had been attempted, except a mere catalogue by Forster, in 1777, when the *Flora boreali-Americana* of Andrew Michaux was published at Paris in 1803. This author had travelled many years in North America, from Florida to Hudson Bay, where he was sent by the French government to collect for the Botanical garden of Paris. His work was a great addition to the Botanical knowledge of America, but was not exempted from defects; many well known plants were omitted, very few cryptogamous were described, and not a single Fungus; many good names were changed without necessity, several new genera were badly named, &c. But, nevertheless, the variety of new genera and new species described, the new observations on the old species, and the collective utility of such a general work, still rendered it the best manual on our indigenous botany.

Eleven years afterwards, a second Flora of North America is printed in England by Frederick Pursh, which now claims our attention; but in this interval many other valuable additions to our Botany were published by Muhlenberg, Wildenow, Persoon, Bosc, Michaux, Junr. Turpin, Robin, Rafinesque, Eddy, &c. which are more or less connected with the above work, although often omitted in it, and shall therefore claim likewise a share of our notice.

This work is dedicated to the Vice President of the Linnean Society of London, Mr. A. B. Lambert, who has patronised the undertaking, and at whose expense it was printed, a conduct deserving the thanks of all the botanists both in Europe and in our country.

We shall in the first instance offer a remark on the title of this work, which may likewise apply to the Flora of Michaux, and several other works on *North America*. A Flora is a botanical work of a local nature, whose object is to acquaint us with, or describe the plants of a peculiar district, state, or country. A Flora of North America ought therefore to enumerate the plants found all over that Continent, while Mr. Pursh only pretends to acquaint us with the plants of the United States, Florida, Canada, &c. He ought to have reflected that North America includes, besides, the Mexican provinces, the Antilles or West Indian Islands, the British possessions, New Siberia, &c. This oversight, is however so common, that it escapes general notice, and has perhaps originated in the wrong belief that the United States form the whole of North America, or in the want of a specific national name; but until such a name be adopted, every local work on the United States ought to bear that name, instead of the enlarged and extensive appellation of North America.

In his preface Mr. Pursh gives a long account of his labours, while in the United States, from 1799 to 1811, and of the ample means within his power, both in America and Europe, for the completion of this Flora. It appears that he lived mostly in the U. S. in the humble character of gardener to Mr. Hamilton of Philadelphia, and Dr. Hosack of New-York, or was for some years employed by D. Benj. Barton, as a collector of plants. He travelled from North Carolina to Maine, but never visited the southern nor western States. The writer of this article knew him in 1804, while he was Mr. Hamilton's botanical gardener, and he appeared to be intelligent and zealous in his profession, but not equal to the task he has since undertaken; the same opinion is entertained by those who knew him in New-York, at a later period, when he had in charge the Elgin garden. His materials for a general Flora of the U. S. were very scanty when he left this country for Europe, and therefore the Flora which has since appeared must have been compiled in England, of which we have sufficient proofs by accounts from thence, and by the whole tenor of the work. It has however received the kind assistance of Mr. Lambert, who appears to have done for Pursh what Richard did for Michaux, helping him in the arrangement, synonimy and definitions of the species, &c.

The sources which Mr. Pursh acknowledges to have consulted in the United States, are the herbariums of Messrs. Enslen, Lyon, Peck, Lewis, Leconte, &c. (but he does not even mention those of Dr. Eddy, and Mr. Rafinesque,) and in England the Herbariums of Clayton, Walter, Catesby, Plukenet, Pallas, Bradbury, Nuttall, Menzies, Sherard, Lambert, Banks, &c. this fact conveys an idea of much labour and investigation. By the list of authors and works consulted or quoted, it would appear that Mr. Pursh has been at least very industrious and inquisitive, but when we reflect that he has totally neglected the

tracts published in the United States, by Drs. Brickell, Cutler, Eddy, Mitchell, Mr. Rafinesque, &c. besides the travels and works of Schoepf, Castiglione, Bosc, Desvaux, Robin, &c. published in Europe, we must form a different judgment, and tax him with wilful neglect in the most important instance.

This Flora being ushered forth with an apparent confidence, and with the character of an elaborate classical work, deserves still more an accurate investigation and criticism. In Botany, as in all the sciences which are daily improving, the last works are always reckoned the best: this Flora will therefore be the manual and director of the American botanists, probably for many years to come, or until a better one is undertaken, and as it is likely to carry with it a great authority, perhaps more than it really deserves, it becomes incumbent on us to warn them of the omissions, errors, mistakes, misnomers, and plagiarisms which it contains.

It will be proper to acquaint our readers first with the general tenor of the work, which we shall endeavour to do as concisely as possible, since such among them as will feel the greatest share of interest in our remarks, probably possess the volume, and are therefore already acquainted with their scope.

The whole work contains about 3500 species of plants, including 82 in a particular supplement; but exclusive of the cryptogamous, which are omitted, except the ferms. Michaux's flora contained about 2000 species only, which shows what a rapid increase in the knowledge of our plants has taken place within a short period; but that number might have been carried to above 4000 if all the phenogamous plants omitted by Pursh had been added; and to 5000 at least, if he had included all the cryptogamous. About 370 new species are introduced here for the first time; but among those about 100 new species were discovered by Capt. Lewis, about 45 by Mr. Bradbury, about 10 new species by Mr. Enslen, about 20 new species by Mr. Lyon, about 18 new species by Mr. Nuttall, about 15 new species by Mr. Menzies, about 15 new species by Mr. Frazer, 12 new species by Mr. Rafinesque, 2 new species by Dr. Eddy, and about 40 by Messrs. Vanvleck, Kinn, Nelson, Peck, Pallas, Mason, Miller, Leconte, Muhlenberg, Colmaster, Tilden, Bartram, Mackenzie, &c. leaving therefore only 38 species, or thereabouts, as really discovered by Mr. Pursh: he will deserve sufficient credit for these, without assuming those which belong to others. Many species, and even a few genera, although not new, are introduced for the first time in the Flora of the United States; among the genera the following deserve notice, *Androsace*, *Alchemilla*, *Oxytropis*, *Glycirhiza*, *Lotus*, *Cristaria*, *Elæagrus*, *Diapensia*, *Chondrilla*, *Santolina*, *Thalia*, *Diotis*, *Schizea*, *Chiococca*, *Ceropegia*, *Ervum*, *Cytisus*, *Evolvulus*, *Phellandrium*, *Sibbaldia*, *Fritillaria*, *Peplis*, *Tigarea*, *Calligonum*, *Myagrum*, *Cheiranthus*, &c.

These plants are arranged according to the sexual system of Linneus, with some trifling alterations: strange as it may seem, notwithstanding the superstitious veneration which the disciples of Linneus entertain for that most trivial part of the labours of that great man, almost every one of them endeavour to alter or mend that falling system: they may be compared to masons endeavouring to sustain, by patch-work, an old building erected by an able architect with bad materials, and now falling to ruins. Of all the alterations ever proposed to the sexual system, that of Brotero in the Flora Lusitanica is the best, or in fact the only good one; but as it reduced at once the 24 classes of Linneus into 12, it was considered as too bold by the patchers, and neglected by them. Let us hope that the labours of Jussieu, Decandolle, Brown, and Rafinesque, will soon supersede those wretched attempts.

The definitions or characters of the genera and species are given in Latin; but the observations on the species are in English: the former appear to be elaborate, and often accurate; the synonimy is not extensive, but selected, and rather deficient in American authors. In the observations, many commendable and useful remarks are introduced, such as the states, situations and soils where the plant grow, the months in which they blossom, the colour of the flowers, the uses of the plant, some vulgar names and several other additional illustrations.

Twenty-four plates, in which 27 new plants are figured, adorn this work; but many appear to have been drawn on dry specimens, and not very accurately.

Eight new genera are proposed in this Flora, *Calochortus*, *Lewisia*, *Clarckia*, *Chimaphila*, *Ammyrsine!!* *Seymeria*, *Bartonia!!* *Apios*; but a great many more could have been established with great propriety, as will be perceived by our subsequent remarks on those genera.

Whoever undertakes a general Flora, must avail himself of all the previous la-

bours on the same subject: omissions, unless wholly unavoidable, become errors, and are always defects. Mr. Pursh might not be acquainted with the catalogue of the plants of North America, by the Rev. Dr. Muhlenberg, although published in 1813, (one year previous to his own Flora,) owing to the war; yet we find in that Catalogue, which may be deemed a synopsis of our genera, more than 20 of our phenogamous genera, totally omitted by Pursh, such as *Rivina*, *Fuchsia*, *Amyris*, *Tordylium*, *Elliotea*, *Coccoloba*, *Cesalpinia*, *Quassia*, *Swietenia*, *Winterania*, *Sesuvium*, *Maurandia*, *Carica*, *Clusia*, *Hippomane*, *Epidendrum*, &c. This omission was perhaps unavoidable, owing to Mr. Pursh's being unacquainted with the fact of their having been found on our continent many years ago; but even in this case ignorance stamps a degree of imperfection on the whole work, and this stigma will increase, together with our astonishment, when we shall perceive him neglecting other labours, published while he was in America! Of the discoveries and additions published since 1814, by Messrs. Bigelow, Barton, Elliot, Eaton, Rafinesque, &c. he cannot be presumed to have had a previous knowledge, and even if he had, no blame could be attached to him for neglecting them, since strict justice only requires that botanists should acknowledge and adopt what has been published before the period or date of their own works, or such unpublished discoveries as may be communicated to them for publication.

Among other phenogamous genera omitted by Pursh, the following may deserve attention, *Acanthus*, *Chrysophyllum*, *Peucedanum*, *Cassine*, *Aretia*, *Lantana*, &c. mentioned by Robin in his *Flore Louisianaise*, Paris, 1807; a work with which he appears to be totally unacquainted: a synoptical compendium of it has lately been published in New-York, in which 30 new genera, and nearly 200 new species unknown to Pursh, have been established by Rafinesque.

Moreover, the new genera *Diphryllum*, *Phyllepidum*, *Shultzia*, *Odonectis*, *Tsotria*, &c. and PURSHIA, dedicated to himself!! published by C. S. Rafinesque in the Medical Repository of New-York, 1808, No. 44, of which Mr. Pursh must have had knowledge, and has wilfully omitted for some purpose which can only be guessed at. He has introduced in his Flora many of the naturalized plants, which form an important feature in the botany of every country, but has omitted as many more, since he has neglected the following naturalized genera! *Phyllirea*, *Syringa*, *Borrago*, *Arctium*, *Vesicaria*, *Symphytum*, *Hyacinthus*, *Nigella*, *Adonis*, *Hemerocallis*, *Anethum*, *Molucella*, *Althea*, *Tragopogon*, *Scabiosa*, *Calendula*, *Spinacia*, *Cucurbita*, *Celosia*, &c. and many more, most of which are enumerated by Rafinesque, in a dissertation on the naturalized plants of the U. S. in the Medical Repository, for 1811, No. 56. The following genera which had been naturalized, but of which some species have since been found really native, have also been neglected! *Spartium*, *Lolium*, *Nyctago*, *Brassica*, &c.

If therefore nearly 100 phenogamous genera really found within our territory are omitted and neglected by Mr. Pursh, we may easily conjecture how many species must be in the same predicament. Upon a slight research, it appears that he has neglected to notice more than 100 species of well known plants, besides about 60 new species described by Mr. Rafinesque, about 40 new species described by Messrs. Cutler, Brickell, Schœpf, Bosc, Desvaux, Bartram, &c. about 200 new species of the Flora of Lousiana, and more than 200 new species noticed by Dr. Muhlenberg, making together an aggregate number of above 600 phenogamous species known or published previous to 1814. To which might be added, many more discovered, previous to that period, by Messrs. Elliot, Leconte, Bradbury, Eddy, Torrey, Rafinesque, Whitlow, Baldwin, Collins, &c. but not yet published.

It is hardly to be supposed that he was ignorant of so many additions to American Botany, of which a great proportion had been published in New-York, while he was in that city or its neighbourhood, and some published or republished in Paris! for instance the new genera and species of Mr. Rafinesque after being published in New-York in the Medical Repository, were afterwards printed in the first volume of the journal of Botany, by Desvaux, in Paris! Those omissions are therefore unaccountable, unless we suppose that Mr. Pursh has omitted them in order to set off with more advantage his own discoveries, or rather to hide those which he has copied or stolen from them, that he might not be compelled to disclose the sources from which he derived such plagaries.

We are sorry to be compelled to tax this author with such despicable motives; but we do not perceive any other to which it might be ascribed, and we have

abundant proofs that he has concealed circumstances relating to some of the new plants, which he has taken the liberty to describe as his own, while he knew well, that the first discovery, and even publication did not belong to him; he has even in some instances dared to publish them again under the very same names given them by the original discoverers, while sometimes he has concealed his pilferings under different names.

It will be necessary to notice such of those daring attempts as we have been able to detect.

The *Drosera filiformis* was discovered in 1802 by C. S. Rafinesque in a journey to the sea-shore of New-Jersey, in company with Col. Thomas Forrest, communicated in 1803 to Dr. Muhlenberg, to Mr. Hamilton, to whom Mr. Pursh was then gardener, and to Mr. Pursh himself, and published in 1808 in the Medical Repository, in 1809 in the Journal of Botany, &c. nevertheless, Mr. Pursh introduces it in his Flora, in 1814! as a new species, under the same name, stating that he had discovered it in the same place, near Tuckerton, in 1805! and without noticing in the least the above circumstances. A plate of that plant, engraved by said Rafinesque, and intended to form a part of a selection of rare American plants, had been sent in 1808 to Dr. Mitchill of New-York, and is now deposited in the Lyceum of natural history of N. Y. together with many other plates of new plants.

Dr. Eddy of New-York, published in 1807, in the Medical Repository of N. Y. a catalogue of the plants of Plandome on Long-Island, where he characterizes a new species of *Gerardia*, which he calls *G. glauca;* Mr. Pursh seven years afterwards describes the same plant, under the name of *Gerardia quercifolia*, without noticing at all the former name and claim of Dr. Eddy; but he does not omit to state that he has ascertained this plant to be the same as the *Rhinanthus virginicus* of Linneus, although it is a real *Gerardia.*

In an excursion to New-Jersey made by Dr. Eddy, Mr. Leconte, and Mr. Pursh, a very rare new species of *Schizea* was discovered by Dr. Eddy; Mr. Pursh did not find a single specimen; but one was lent to him, with a positive injunction that Dr. Eddy meant to publish that species: however Mr. Pursh has published it under the name of *Shizea pusilla* as his own discovery.

From the above instances some idea may be formed of Mr. Pursh's delicacy and liberality; it might be tedious to enter at length on the particulars of each pilfering he is guilty of; we shall therefore forbear to dwell on them, but shall merely enumerate them.

The *Ceanothus herbaceus* of Rafinesque, Med. Rep. has been described by him as a new species under the name of *C. perennis.*

The *Asclepias viridiflora* of Raf. Med. Rep. has been given as a new species by Pursh under the same identical name!

The *Allium triflorum* of Raf. Med. Rep. is likewise described, under the same name, as his own discovery!

The *Alisma subcordata* of Raf. Med. Rep. is the *Alisma trivialis* of this Flora!

The *Phemeranthus teretifolius*, a new genus mentioned by Rafinesque in his observations on American botany, Med. Rep. 1811, and completely described in 1814 in the Mirror of Sciences, has been named *Talinum teretifolium* by Pursh, although it differs from *Talinum* (or rather *Talinium)* by having a calyx diphyllous, and only one stigma!

The *Chironia amœna* of Raf. Med. Rep. has been named *Sabbatia stellaris*, without reference to the former name.

The *Gerardia maritima* of Raf. in Med. Rep. is stated to be a variety *crassifolia* of *G. purpurea*, but without reference.

The *Tsotria medeoloicles* of Raf. in Med. Rep. is introduced as a N. Sp. of *Arethusa medeoloicles*, without reference, &c.

The errors, misnomers, and blunders, scattered through the whole work, are numberless, and it is sometimes very difficult to perceive or detect them; some of them are copied from authors of some respectability, which render them still more dangerous, as botanists of a common stamp are very easily led to believe, that what is adopted by an eminent author, cannot be erroneous, errors are therefore followed by the crowd of copists and compilers, without exercising any criticism. It would be well if such authors would read at least the *philosophia* and *critica botanica* of Linneus, which is the spelling-book of botany; but it is much to be doubted whether Mr. Pursh ever read it, when he has given to one of his new genera the abominable name of *Ammyrsine*, which is obviously erroneous, for three different reasons, according to the rules established by Linneus himself. 1st. That name contains the linnean generic name of *Myrsine* entire, with the addition of a syllable. 2d. It might be conceived to be a compound of two old generic

names *Ammi* and *Myrsine*. 3d. The good name of *Leiophyllum* had been given to it previously by Persoon, as a subgenus to be sure, but it is a Linnean rule that when a subgenus must become a genus its name must be retained if good; it may be changed only when it is itself erroneous; but to change a good name into a bad one is the most absurd temerity. Yet such absurdity has claimed the preference of Mr. Pursh: we would advise him therefore, as well as those who may be inclined to follow his authority, to go to school, and begin to spell botany, as school boys do their letters.

As this Flora may unfortunately become the manual of our botanists, it will be needful to point out some of the most glaring errors adopted or introduced therein; we shall therefore attempt to survey them regularly throughout the work, following its own arrangement, and adding occasional observations.

1. *Zostera marina*, Pursh, is a different species *Z. Stenophylla*, Raf.

2. *Caulinia* ought to be spelt *Cavolinia*, from Cavolini, to whom that genus was dedicated, as *Befaria* ought to be *Bejaria*.

3. Only 3 species of *Callitriche* are enumerated; 10 at least exist in the Atlantick States only, 8 of which were described in a Monography of the genus, sent by C. S. Rafinesque, and read before the Linnean Society of London 2 or 3 years before 1814.

4. *Ornus*, adopted on the authority of Persoon, contrary to linnean rules, similar to *Cornus*, &c. ought to be *Mannaphorus*.

5. *Catalpa*, Jussieu, is in a similar predicament, respecting the genus *Talpa*; it ought to be altered to *Catalpium*, as *Talinum* containing *Linum*, should be *Talinium*.

6. *Veronica Scutellata*, Pursh, is different from the species of Linneus and Europe: *V. Uliginosa*, Raf.

7. His *Gratiola aurea* had been called *G. lutea* by Raf. in Med. Rep.

8. The *Heteranthera* was named by Ruiz and Pavon, in the Flora Peruviana; Beauvais's name, *Heterandra*, is a better one. The *H. graminea* and *H. limosa* belong to a different genus, the *Schollera* of Schreber, anterior to *Leptanthus*, Mx.

9. His *Serpicula occidentalis* is a distinct genus, the name of Mx. *Elodea* being consimilar to *Elodea* of Adanson, must be changed to *Philotria*.

10. He has adopted the generic improvements of Vahl in the tribe of *Calamaria*, and he has adopted the genus *Miegea* of Persoon in preference to *Arundinaria*, Mx. which is right; but he has kept the genus *Orizopsis* of Mx. equally bad, instead of the name of *Dilepyrum* into which Raf. had changed it, in Med. Repos. Obs. on Amer. Botany, since the *Dilepyrum* of Michaux is the *Muhlenbergia* of Schreber, Pursh, &c.

11. His *Milium amphicarpon* must probably form a new genus *Amphicarpon*, Raf.

12. He has followed Wildenow, in uniting the genus *Cinna*, L. with *Agrostis*, but those genera are totally distinct.

13. The *Alopecurus carolinianus*, of Walter, appears to be different from the *A. subaristatus* of Mich. to which P. unites it.

14. *Holcus fragrans* belongs to a peculiar genus *Dimesia*, Raf. together with *H. monticola* of Bigelow.

15. The species of *Uniola*, with 3 Stamina, such as *U. paniculata*, must form a peculiar genus *Trisiola*.

16. And the *Festuca diandra*, the genus *Diarina*, Raf. Obs. in Med. Rep.

17. Likewise the *Veonica virginica*, together with the species of that genus having tubular corollas, must form the genus *Callistachya* Raf. Obs. in Med. Rep.

18. He has named a new species of *Veronica*, discovered by Lewis and Clarke. *V. Reniformis*, while Rafinesque had given the same name to another new species, therefore this second species must be called *V. missurica*, Fl. Miss.

19. He follows the wrong example of Persoon in uniting the genus *Stipulicida*, Mx. with *Polycarpon*.

20. He adopts the erroneous generic name of *Centaurella*, Mx. instead of *Bartonia*, Wild. while *Bartonia* is an anterior name, and *Centaurella* is contrary to the linnean rational rules of momenclature, being derived from *Centaurea* an anterior genus. We find the greatest confusion introduced respecting those two names; Persoon has adopted both names as distinct genera! only changing *Centaurella* into *Centaurium*, which is equally bad; while Messrs. Pursh, Nuttall and Sims have given the name of *Bartonia* to another new genus. The best means of correcting those blunders, is to leave the name of *Bartonia* to the genus to which it was first applied, annulling altogether the erroneous name so *Centaurella* and *Centaurium*, and giving to the new *Bartonia* the name of *Nut-*

tallæ, from one of its discoverers: this has been done by Rafinesque in his *Florula missurica* yet in manuscript, and we invite all the American botanists to accede thereto, instead of adopting and propagating blunders.

21. He unites the genus *Isnardia* with *Ludwigia*, while he ought rather to have united all the species of *Ludwigia* without petals, to the genus *Isnardia*.

22. His *Viscum flavescens* is not such a species, but probably the *V. leucarpum* of Raf. in Flora Ludoviciana.

23. *Eleagnus* is changed in *Eleagrus*, which is right.

24. *Hippophae argentea* does not belong to that genus, having the flowers as in *Eleagrus*, and the fruit as in *Hippophae*; it has been made a new genus, and called *Lepargyrea* by Rafinesque in Florula Missurica.

25. The *Ilex canadensis* of Michaux and Pursh, is certainly not an *Ilex*, it does not even belong to the same natural family; but has more affinity with *Rhamnus*. It must form a new genus, which Rafinesque has called *Nemopanthus*, in his Report to the Lyceum, and in his Decades of New American genera of Plants.

26. The *Ilex myrsinites* of Pursh is likewise a peculiar genus, but of the family *Ilexidia*; Rafinesque has called it *Pachistima*.

27. *Potamogeton natans* of Pursh is not the Linnean nor European species; the same is the case with many other species of that genus; see an account of the American species by Rafinesque in Med. Repos. 1811.

28. He has adopted the incorrect name of *Onosmodium*, Mx. which is derived from *Onosma*, a previous genus, and was altered into *Osmodium* by Raf. in Obs. Med. Rep.

29. He has followed Salisbury in uniting the *G. Pyxidanthera*, Mx. to *Diapensia*; but they are evidently two distinct genera of the same natural family.

30. The *Solanum heterandrum* of Nuttall and Pursh must form a conspicuous and peculiar genus, to which Rafinesque gives the name of *Ceranthera*, Decades of N. G.

31. *Samolus valerandi* of Pursh, or the American species, is different from the European, Raf. calls it *S. parviflorus*.

32. *Ceanothus perennis* is *C. herbaceus* Raf. Med. Rep.

33. He has very wrongly united the genus *Ampelopsis* of Michaux, to *Cissus*, L.

34. He has united the *Viola rotundifolia* of Michaux, to his *Viola Clandestina*, while they are totally different.

35. His *Viola bicolor* is the *V. tenella* of Raf. Obs. in Med. Rep. where it is only mentioned, but not described, owing to Dr. Muhlenberg's insisting at the time on considering it as a variety of *V. arvensis*, but in 1814, he has adopted the species and name of Mr. Rafinesque in his general Catalogue!

36. In adopting the good name *Hamiltonia*, Wild. instead of *Pyrularia*, Mx. he might have quoted as a synonyme *Calinus*, Raf. Obs. in M. R.

37. *Asclepias viridiflora* was discovered, named, and described by Rafinesque, and Muhlenberg, before Pursh.

38. *Asclepias pedicellata* and *A. viridis*, belong to a peculiar genus named *Anthanotis*, by Raf. and *Acerates*, by Elliot; the first name is rather more expressive and less objectionable.

39. Mr. Pursh writes *Gelsemium* of Jussieu, *Gelseminum*, probably from Catesby; but Jussieu's alteration is very proper to distinguish it in sound from *Jasminum*: why has he not quoted as synonymous, *Jeffersonia*, of Brickell? in Med. Rep.

40. He has united the *Gentiana catesbei*, of Walter, to the *G. saponaria*, while they are very different species, as was proved by Dr. Macbride, in a communication to the Lyceum of Nat. History of New-York: they both belong to the genus *Cullera*, Raf. as well as *G. oclerolenca*.

41. *Hydrocotyle reniformis*, of Walter, is also wrongly united with *H. repanda*.

42. He unites the genus *Myrrhis*, Mx. with *Cherophyllum*; the *Ch. claytoni* of Persoon is however made a *Scandix* by Muhlenberg! which proves that it belongs to neither genera, but *Myrrhis* happens to be erroneous also, by being similar to *Amyris*, a previous genus, whence several names have been proposed for it, *Washingtonia*, *Osmorhiza*, *Gonatherus*; but these are not yet published; the second is perhaps the best.

43. His *Atriplex halimus*, *A. laciniata*, *A. hastata*, are different from the European species, and have been called *A. halimoides*, *A. mucronata*, and *A. dioica* by Rafinesque.

C. S. R.

ART. 3. *Report of Cases argued and determined in the circuit court of the United States for the first Circuit.* By JOHN GALLISON, Counsellor at Law, Vol. 2, pp. 596.

WE are happy to announce the continuation of this useful collection of reports, containing the decisions of the Hon. JOSEPH STORY, in the circuit court for the first circuit, including the States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode-Island, for the years 1814 and 1815. This learned judge is distinguished for his genius, industry, and attainments, and for the ardent zeal and enthusiasm with which he cultivates the field of jurisprudence; and a faithful record of his labours on the circuit, where a great variety of important causes are finally disposed of, must be proportionably interesting to the profession. Mr. Gallison, the reporter, has confined himself to the task of giving the arguments of council, and the judgments of the court; it would have been a work of supererogation to have added notes to decisions, where all the resources that could be drawn from authorities are already exhausted, and every illustration that could be derived from elementary learning has been bestowed on the cases determined. Indeed we are quite sure that there is not in any English book of reports, before or since Lord Mansfield's time, so rich a collection of decisions in every branch of law, and one from which the student or the practitioner may gather so much useful information. The multiplication of reports would cease to be lamented as an evil to the science of the law, if they were all of the character of the work before us.

In the law of prize it settles the most important principles and rules of prize practice; a subject of very great interest, and which, had it not been for the experience acquired in the late war, would have remained in that darkness and obscurity in which it seems to have been the sedulous study of the practitioners at Doctors Commons to involve it.

Among the principles settled in the present volume are the whole doctrine respecting joint captures, and the proportions in which the capturing crew are to share; the responsibility and duties of prize agents; the presumptions and testimony applicable to cases of collusive capture; the custody and care of the prize papers, and the mode of conducting the preliminary examinations; the general rules of evidence, and in what cases further proof is admissable; the delivery of the property on bail or stipulation to abide the event of the cause; questions of proprietary interest and forfeiture of neutrality on account of *malâ fide* conduct; liability of prize goods to duties, and mode of collecting them; the mode of compelling captors to proceed to adjudication, and their responsibility in case the property is lost or spoliated; the nature of contraband, and the penalty for carrying it; the doctrine of domicil; of ransoms; and the extent and nature of the jurisdiction of the prize court. The decisions in these cases have either been so satisfactory to the bar that no appeal has been entered, or they have been confirmed upon appeal, by the supreme court, with the exception of a single case involving a question of fact arising out of conflicting testimony. Among the judgments appealed from, and confirmed by the appelate tribunal are, that of the *Invincible*, (p. 29.) in which it was determined that the trial of prizes belongs exclusively to the courts of the captor's country, and that no neutral nation can at all interfere therein, either by a proceeding against the captured property, or the commissioned cruizer, on the complaint of its own citizens, or of foreigners: a case of great importance in principle, and of daily application, (affirmed in the Sup. Co. Feb. T. 1816, 1 *Wheat. R.*) that of the *George*, (p. 249,) a question of collusive capture, where it was difficult to unravel the closely woven web of fraud by which a trade with the enemy was to be covered under the guise of hostile capture; (affirmed in the Sup. Co. Feb. T. 1817. 2 *Wheat. R.* 282.) that of the *Commercen*, (p. 261.) in which the long contested question between belligerants and neutrals, whether in any, and in what cases, provisions, become contraband, by the law of nations (independent of treaties) was settled; and the penalty of confiscation was applied to provisions destined to the allied army in Spain during the late war, although Spain was neutral as between the United States and Great Britain; (affirmed in the Sup. Co. Feb. T. 1816, 1 *Wheat.* 382.) The principle of this last case does not, as seems to be intimated in the review of the first volume of *Wheaton's Reports*, (North American Review, vol. 5, No. 1, p. 114.) involve a recognition of the British doctrine which interdicts in war all neutral trade not open in time of peace. In the

Commercen, the provisions were exported by the special permission of the British government for the supply of their army in Spain, and the principle on which freight was refused, is very distinguishable from that of *the rule of* 1756, and is rather to be referred to that by which a licensed trade is rendered illegal, or to that by which the confiscation of the vehicle of enemy's despatches, &c. is justified. The voyage was illegal both on account of the contraband, and the adoption of the enemy's character, and identification, with his interests by transporting supplies to his army under his special permission. It was perfectly immaterial to the decision of the cause whether the exportation of grain from Ireland to Spain was or was not permitted in time of peace. In the case of the *San Jose Indiano* (p. 268.) it is determined that if a house of trade, established in the enemy's country, ship goods, *on their own account*, to one of the partners who is domiciled in a neutral country, the whole is condemnable as prize; but if the shipment be made by order of a partner, *for his separate account and risk*, it is not liable to condemnation. (This rule affirmed in the Sup. Co. Feb. T. 1816, in the case of the *Antonia Johanna*, 1 *Wheat. R.*) In *the Arabella and the Madeira*, (p. 368.) the doctrine that the prize court may condemn property lying in a neutral port, which had been before laid down by the Supreme Court of the United States, in Hudson vs. Guestier, 4 *Cranch*, 293, 6 *Cranch*, 281, (though previously denied by the Supreme Court of this State, in Depuyster vs. Wheelright, 1 *Johns. R.* 471,) was reviewed, and sanctioned upon the footing of authority, upon the legislative will as expressed in the prize act, and upon the principles of public law. A case was argued at the last term of the Supreme Court of New-York, in which the validity of such a condemnation came again in question; and that learned tribunal will doubtless see the propriety and wisdom of conforming its decision to the prize law as laid down by the highest court of the country, for the very same reason that this court regard as authoritative the decisions of the State courts on questions of local law; because they form a rule of property, which ought not to be disturbed, and which cannot be shaken without great inconvenience and mischief. A different course might be attended with this awkward result, that a condemnation in the District, Circuit, and Supreme Courts of the United States, might be reversed in a State court in an action of trover! For if the prize court has no jurisdiction the *exceptio rei judicatæ* would not apply. Besides the prize practice of all Europe authorizes such a condemnation.

The principles of prize law are by no means, as some suppose, applicable only in time of war, and to the concerns of nations actually engaged in the conflict. They are directly useful for a long time after peace is restored in settling various questions of maritime and commercial law which arise during the war, and they at all times reflect light on the investigations of those who delight in tracing the analogies of law. But the value of the present volume does by no means depend solely on the prize cases it contains. It embraces a variety of interesting decisions in commercial, chancery, and common law, illustrated by elementary learning and sound juridicial logic.

Among these is a most elaborate opinion upon the prize, instance, and criminal jurisdiction of the admiralty; an opinion, which is a monument of the learning, industry, and talents of the judge, which may fairly challenge comparison with any thing that the annals of European jurisprudence can boast. In this able and admirable opinion, it is maintained by a most conclusive train of reasoning that the original, rightful jurisdiction of the instance court of admiralty extends over all torts committed on the high seas, and to every species of maritime contract, including policies of insurance; and that all the exceptions to this ample jurisdiction, which the courts of common law in England have enforced with the terrors of prohibition, have been mere usurpations of power over weakness. This doctrine has been incidentally confirmed by the Supreme Court of the U. S. in Martin vs. Hunter, 1 *Wheat.* and is followed in practice by all the District Courts from Maine to New-York, inclusive; in which courts, suits by material men for supplies for vessels in the port where they belong, and hypothecations at home, and suits by the master for wages, are daily entertained by proceeding *in rem* or *in personam* to the great convenience of commerce.

The position that such is the rightful extent of the jurisdiction of the admiralty is supported; 1st. by historical analogies, showing that such has been its jurisdiction in every maritime country in Europe, from time immemorial, and still remains, except in England only. Even in Scotland the admiralty takes cognizance of all maritime contracts and torts whatsoever;

and in the late volumes of Dow's Reports in Parliament, there are several insurance causes appealed to the house of lords, from the court of session in Scotland, originally brought in the admiralty court of that country; 2d. by the antiquities of the admiralty, all proving that such was its original and rightful jurisdiction; 3d. the authorities cited by Lord Coke in the 4th inst. 134, to narrow down the admiralty jurisdiction, are reviewed and analyzed in a masterly manner; and it is most satisfactorily shown that they do not support the ground taken by that disingenous and illiberal enemy of every jurisdiction but his own; 4th. it is considered what effect the statutes of Richard II. and Henry IV. were intended to have in restraining the ancient jurisdiction of the admiralty, and it is proved that the construction of these statutes, by the courts of common law, is erroneous, absurd, and inconsistent with the fragments of jurisdiction which they still permit the admiralty to exercise, (e. g. suits for mariners wages,) and that it is wholly irreconcileable with their exposition of the statutes; 5th. the extent of the admiralty jurisdiction is inferred from the concession of the common law judges themselves, in the solemn agreements of 1575 and 1632, most amply admitting and confirming the jurisdiction claimed by the admiralty; 6th. the grant in our constitution to the judiciary of the United States, of jurisdiction over "all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction," is expounded to refer, *not* to the admiralty jurisdiction, as acknowledged by the courts of common law *in England* at the commencement of the American revolution, or at the time of the emigration of our ancestors; but either as acknowledged and exercised *in the United States*, at the declaration of independence, *or*, to the ancient and primitive jurisdiction of the admiralty of England, by virtue of its original organization. It is shown in the opinion that the admiralty courts, in these then colonies, exercised jurisdiction over all maritime torts and contracts; and the supposition that the terms "admiralty and *maritime* jurisdiction," intended by the framers of the constitution to refer to the rightful jurisdiction of the English admiralty, receives strong countenance from the historical analogy between the original organization of that court in England and in France, and indeed in all the maritime countries of Europe.

In France the courts of admiralty have jurisdiction of all maritime contracts and torts, as they formerly had in England. In both countries these courts are branches which have sprung from that ancient and venerable stock, the office of *Admiral*, which occupies so great a portion of the military and political history of the two countries. The etymology of the word serves to indicate the origin of the office, and the epoch when it was introduced into the maritime countries of Europe. The word *Admiral*, or *Ammiral*, is unquestionably derived from the Arabic word *emir* or *amira*, signifying a general officer or commander in chief, *dominum vel præfectum**. In the time of the crusades, by means of which so many oriental institutions and usages were brought into the west of Europe, it was introduced into France as the title of a commander in chief of land or sea forces; for it was indifferently applied to either. Accordingly, we find that the office, with that title, was unknown until the third dynasty of French kings, under Charles IV. about the end of the thirteenth century, and made its appearance in England about the same period, in the reign of Edward I.† After the term thus came to be exclusively applied to the commander in chief of marine forces, the station was filled in France with several illustrious characters, and in the scale of civil and military dignities, ranked immediately after the office of constable. Among these, history distinguishes Gaspard de Coligny, the virtuous chief of the Protestant party, in the civil wars which desolated France under the successors of Francis I.; and Henri de Montmorency, a leader of the Catholic faction, who resigned this office into the hands of Louis XIII. in 1626, by whom it was suppressed, and that of Grand Master, Chief, and Superintendent General of the navigation and commerce of France, created in favour of his minister, Cardinal Richelieu. The civil and military functions of this office were thus separated until 1669, when Louis XIV. revived it under the ancient title of Admiral, though with a considerable diminution of its former power and splendour. But whatever might have been its political and military authority, at various periods of French history, from the time of its first establishment, it is certain, that, both before its suppression by the artful policy of Richelieu, in order to strengthen the power of the crown, and

* Milton writes the word thus—
"As when the mast-of some tall *Admiral*."
Paradise Lost.
Al signifies, in Arabic, *the*; thus *Al Emir*, by a slight change, became *Ammiral*.

† *Valin, sur l'Ord. Liv.* 1. *tit.* 1, *de l'Amiral*—2 *Bro. Civ. and Adm. Law.* 22.

after its renovation by Louis XIV. the personage who filled this high office had jurisdiction, either by himself or his lieutenants and delegates, of all maritime torts, and all contracts of a maritime nature.

Such are the history and attributes of this office in France. In England it subsisted with the same title until the reign of Charles II. when it was filled by his brother the duke of York, (afterwards James II.) but he being excluded from office, as a Catholic, by the test act, in 1673, it was executed by commissioners, with the same power and authority as belonged to the Lord High Admiral. During the reign of William II. it was conferred on the earl of Pembroke; and in that of Anne upon Prince George of Denmark, her husband; but, since the accession of the House of Hanover, the office has been vested in commissioners, who are styled the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty. But the king is said still to hold, for certain purposes, the office of High Admiral, in a capacity distinguishable from his regal character; a distinction of practical importance in the law of prize, but immaterial to the present object. The English court of admiralty is held before the Lord High Admiral, or his deputy, the judge of the High Court of Admiralty, who formerly held his place by patent from the Lord High Admiral, but who, since that office has only existed in contemplation of law, holds it by a direct commission from the crown. The High Court of Admiralty in Scotland is held before the delegate of the High Admiral, who may also name other inferior local deputies, and who is declared to be the king's justice general upon the seas, or fresh water within flood and mark, and in all harbours and creeks, and whose jurisdiction extends to all maritime causes.‡ The vice admiralty courts in the colonies and other foreign dominions of Great Britain, are constituted, and their judges appointed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

This conformity between the origin and history of the courts of admiralty in France and in Great Britain would therefore seem to imply that their civil, criminal, and prize jurisdiction, however it may have been shifted from its ancient foundations, must have been formerly the same. This supposition derives additional strength from the intimate connexion that subsists between the history of the two countries, blended together, as they were, by their original relation as provinces of the Roman empire, by the Norman conquest of England, and the invasion of France by the English kings, by the prevalence of the feudal system, the papal power and the spirit of the crusades.

It is therefore highly probable that the framers of the constitution, who were enlightened and liberal minded men, selected the phrase, "causes of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction," as adapted to express the amplitude of jurisdiction anciently enjoyed by the English admiralty, and still possessed by it in France, in Scotland, and in the British colonies; and that they did not use it in the narrow sense it might convey to the ear of an English common lawyer.

This probability is enhanced by considering that the term "maritime" is superadded to "admiralty," as it would seem, *ex industria*, so as to embrace the whole extent of jurisdiction over all causes, civil and criminal, growing out of maritime commerce, similar to that enjoyed in all the maritime countries of Europe by special tribunals, under the various names of consular, maritime, commercial, or admiralty courts.

Among the subjects of a more general nature, which are discussed in this volume, is a very important question of constitutional, or public law, in the case of *The Society for Propagating the Gospel*, &c. vs. *Wheeler*; in which, the local statute of New-Hampshire, allowing to *bonâ fide* possessors of lands, recovered by suit, an indemnification for improvements made by them, was pronounced to be unconstitutional, so far as it operated *retrospectively*. The case of *Halch* vs. *White*, (p. 152.) settles a principle which does not appear to have received a direct determination in England; it is, that, after the foreclosure of a mortgage, the mortgagee may still recover at law, upon the attendant bond or note, the deficiency of the mortgaged property to pay the debt due, calculating the value of such property at the time of the actual foreclosure. In the *Jerusalem*, (p. 191.) it was determined that the courts of this country may take jurisdiction of personal actions between foreigners, when the person or property is within reach of the process of the court, wherever the cause of action may have originated. The doctrine of *res judicata* is considered in *Harvey* vs. *Richards*, (p. 216.) where it was decided that a decree of reversal, by a supreme court of probate, of a decree of distribution by an in-

‡ 2 *Bro. Civ. and Adm. Law*, 30.

ferior court, is no bar to a subsequent suit by the same parties. In *Payson* vs. *Coolidge*, (p. 233.) it was determined that a promise to accept a *non-existing* bill, then to a third person, who, upon the faith of such promise, takes it for a valuabe consideration, is in law an acceptance of such bill when drawn. Affirmed in the Sup. Co. Feb. T. 1817, 2 *Wheat. R.* 66. In the case of the *Jerusalem*, (p. 345.) it was settled that a tradesman has a lien on a foreign ship, lying in one of our ports, for repairs made by him on the vessel, which is to be preferred to a bottomry bond, if the repairs appear to be indispensable; and in the same case, (p. 433.) that a wharfinger has a lien on a foreign ship for warfage, but this will not be preferred to a bottomry interest previously attaching, if the warfinger has made an express personal contract with the ship owner.

In this last case the court yielded to the weight of the common law authorities, by which, it has been adjudged that where the parties enter into a personal contract for a specific sum, it is a discharge of the lien resulting by implication of law; but at the same time the learned judge expressly referred the right hereafter to review those authorities and to ascertain whether they are founded on any rational principle. It is to be desired that all our judges would manifest the same courage in throwing off the slavery of precedents, to which, by far too much influence has been allowed in judicial decisions in this country. Wherever such decisions form a rule of property, which cannot be altered without shaking titles acquired under the faith of the rule, and in the numerous cases where it is immaterial what the rule is, so that it be fixed and known, precedents ought to be implicitly followed. But in all other cases, and where the legislative will has not prescribed a rule of positive institution, or commercial usage created one, courts of justice ought no farther to be bound by the decisions of their predecessors than as they are conformable with the fundamental principles of jurisprudence, or are corollaries logically deduced from those principles. The law would then become a SCIENCE improveable like other sciences, by the exercise of *all* the intellectual faculties, and not be dependant upon the *memory* alone; so that he who can string together cases, by names and dates, is considered a greater lawyer than Mansfield or D'Aguesseau, and a nisi prius *dictum*, which may have been mistaken or misrepresented, is put in the balance against the scientific inductions of a Pothier, or a Jones. Nor would the abolition of this *jurisprudence des arrets* destroy the utility of such books of reported decisions as that before us, which would not be consulted by mere *case-hunters* only, but would be resorted to by the scientific lawyer as a rich collection of reasonings, which may be applied to other anological cases, and extended to the invention of new principles, or to the induction of new corollaries from the same principles. The value of the work in this respect is much increased by the free use which is made in it of that code of *written reason*, the civil law; which is an inexhaustible reservoir of equitable rules applicable to the ever varying circumstances of society, and does more honour to the Romans than all their victories and triumphs, and monuments; and by which, that wonderful people, though extinct as a martial state, still continue silently to rule the greater portion of the civilized world.

W.

ART. 4. *Transactions of the Physico-Medical Society of New-York.* Vol. I. New-York, Collins and Co. 1817, 8vo. pp. 438, with prints.

AMONG the many occurrences worthy of being considered as improvements in society, during the age in which we live, is the association of respectable and competent individuals, for the communication and diffusion of useful knowledge. The Society for the Promotion of Arts, the Historical Society, and the Literary and Philosophical Society, have already distinguished themselves by their respective publications, whereby they have increased their own reputation, while they have made valuable contributions to the common stock of information.

The volume now before us comes from another quarter. It appears that during the summer of 1815, a number of the junior members of the medical profession in the city of New-York formed themselves into a body, called the Physico-Medical Society. The chief object of the association is to employ every exertion, jointly and severally, for making observations, collecting facts, instituting inquiries, and offering written essays on

subjects of a professional nature, particularly as they occur in America. The members are arranged into two classes, fellows and correspondents. Among the specified articles of research, the constitution enumerates memoirs on medicine and surgery; the history of particular diseases, with the best curative means; a detailed account of cases, accompanied by reflections and inferences; new facts in relation to the human body, physiologically and anatomically; additions to the catalogue of medicines, and improvements in the modes of preparing and applying them; information derived from natural history, chemistry, and the auxiliary departments of science; and, lastly, the discouragement of abuses in the study and practice of the profession, and in the composition and use of remedies.

Under this organization, the members have been so active, and have bestirred themselves with such diligence, that the present volume has been produced.

We have carefully examined it. We find it a miscellany of interesting articles, some of which possess distinguished merit, others are very respectable, and none of them unworthy. The pieces do credit at once to the authors and to the committee of publication. From such a beginning much good may be anticipated; and we exhort the members to a steady perseverance in their original design.

It is time, however, that we should proceed with the book. The first article is a discourse, in the form of an introduction, by Elias Marks, M.D. on what he calls "the Sophistication of Medical Theory." We are pleased with the mixture of learning, taste, and ingenuity, which distinguishes this performance from beginning to end. Yet we must be indulged in a few remarks.

The author mentions truth as being "ever one and the same." This is one of the dogmas of the schools which a mind as intelligent as his, ought to have discarded. Truth, as the acute and logical John Horne Tooke observes, is a word of nearly the same import, and of exactly the same origin with *troth*; both being derived from the old verb *trow*. To "trow," or to "pledge one's *troth*," meant simply a conscientious and sincere declaration of one's knowledge, persuasion, or conviction, on a given subject. It has reference merely to the sincerity and honesty of the individual's statement or declaration. If he is solemnly impressed with the reality or correctness of his story, although he may be mistaken, or labour under an error, he is nevertheless a *true* man. His *integrity* makes him *true*; an unintentional error does not destroy his truth. Truth being therefore merely a person's matured and discreet opinion, there may be opposite and even contradictory truths, and this may, and indeed often does, happen, without any imputation on the honesty of the parties confronting each other.

Let us take an illustration from the courts of law. There the witness is sworn to declare "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." Although the testimony of one witness should be directly adverse to that of another, yet, where both are fair and unblemished, they are *true* men, and speak the *truth*. So the judges consider them; for if they are upright and candid, however they may differ, nobody charges them with falsehood, far less with perjury. The juror's oath, in like manner, binds him "to find a *true* verdict according to evidence." This signifies that the judgment he shall give on the matter before him, shall be deduced from the evidence, with all the ability and impartiality he can bestow upon it. Now, the juror may mistake the matter, and derive his conclusion from premises that are misconceived or erroneous. Where, however, his intention is good and faithful, such error, though it may vitiate the verdict, does in no degree taint the juror's rectitude.

In these instances, we cannot too much admire the sagacity that dictated these two forms of obligation, awakening the moral sense without ensnaring it; and leaving room for amending unavoidable errors in witnesses and jurors, by new trials, without impugning the honesty of either.

A man's *truth* being thus his sincere and candid opinion upon a subject viewed by the best light of opportunity and understanding, there may be as many *truths* as there are honest minds. Neither the witness nor the juror is sworn to the *fact*, but only to the *truth*. To swear them to the former would be to ensnare their consciences, while a due regard to the latter obliges a rational and accountable being to make a full and just disclosure of all that he knows. And in this way, the distinction between *fact* and *truth* is to be understood and explained. We hope our logicians will henceforward cease to declaim on the "unity and sameness" of truth.

The author endeavours to state the

distinction between Theory and Hypothesis. The former is the inference drawn by a reasoning mind from actual, real, or established premises. The latter is a principle assumed without any reasoning at all, or without logical data. Theory may be considered as the inductive process of the understanding; hypothesis the syllogistic method. Theory travels in the humble *posteriori* road from particulars to a general conclusion. Hypothesis drives along the high *priori* road, applying assumed rules to particular cases. Theory may be termed the logic of nature, hypothesis that of art. A skilful reasoner will understand the use of both instruments. They are both very powerful, and may be employed by turns, as circumstances require.

As to the reasoning faculty of man, there is an old and trite saying "that there is reason in all things." In a debate before a deliberative body, the supporters and the opposers of a motion have reason on their respective sides of the question. The like happens to the plaintiff and the defendant in the argument of counsellors on an issue at law. In all the controversies which arise in a free country, the litigants are invariably reasoning and reasonable creatures. The important distinction among these champions of reasoning is between those who reason well and those who reason ill. The former may be called *rational* men, the latter *reasoning* men; while the one class proceeds logically from principles to consequences, the other is occupied merely in finding reasons for every thing they do or approve, or which they omit or condemn.

Since therefore all men reason, they are divisible into the two classes of good and bad reasoners. We agree with Dr. M. that a frequent cause of error, is the fondness for generalizing, leading to the deduction of an universal result, hastily and prematurely, from partial considerations.

When persons who undertake to embody facts, to arrange objects, to record events, and to draw conclusions from the survey they have made, shall labour diligently, and wait patiently, there will be fewer mistakes and crudities brought forth. But as long as fancy shall be taken for fact, and conceit be received for logic, visionary doctrines and imaginary notions will from time to time be presented to the world. For a season, they will attract attention or admiration; but when their imposing novelty is past, they will yield to the next brilliant or captivating system that shall be displayed. We are gratified by the learning and taste which the discourse before us evinces. The author seems perfectly aware that a knowledge of the *lædentia* and *juvantia* best becomes the clinical physician; and that abstract science must yield the palm to practical art. And in this we approve the good sense which tempers his erudition.

In the notice we take of the tracts which follow the introductory discourse, we shall unite conciseness with method, by placing them under a few heads or titles.

I. *Such as treat of endemic or epidemic diseases.*

Dr. Henry Fish has written "Remarks on the spotted fever as it prevailed at Hartford, Connecticut, in 1809." It appears to be a careful and judicious history of a distemper which has prevailed with distressing violence and mortality in our country within the last ten or twelve years.

We have been highly pleased with the "description of an epidemic influenza which prevailed in the northern and eastern parts of the United States, and more particularly as it appeared in the city of New-York in the autumn of 1815, by Ansel W. Ives, M. D." The reader will find it a record of facts and remarks, instructive to the historian, but more especially to the physician; and evincing the diligence with which the writer explored every source of intelligence for himself.

"An Essay on the Epidemic which prevailed in the northern division of the army of the United States, during the autumn of 1812, and winter of 1812, '13, by J. B. Whitridge, M. D." This is a communication to Dr. W. M. Ross, then a Hospital Surgeon, and contains a well-written and sensible description of the disease which destroyed the troops, and an opinion on the causes, and the preferable treatment of it. Bad police, a cold and damp atmosphere, intemperate eating and drinking, an abuse of whiskey, aliment scanty and sometimes unsound, and impure water, are enumerated among the agents of this mischief, and they are only a part of them. Besides the professional view of the subject, the reader cannot fail to learn how, in time of war, new levies of soldiers are dreadfully cut down by sickness, while they are under the operation of being habituated or seasoned to military life.

II. *Medical topography.*

"Observations on the climate and diseases of the town of Deerfield, in the county of Franklin, and State of Massa-

chusetts, by Dr. Stephen W. Williams." Chorographical accounts of particular regions and districts are valuable portions of knowledge. They are the parts which by addition make up the whole. The modern term of *Statistics* has been applied to this subject, meaning thereby a description of a place in its actual condition, or just as it is. The author refers to Dickenson's geographical, statistical, and historical view of the same town, as published before he wrote, and therefore limits himself more strictly to professional affairs.

III. *Botany.*

"An Inquiry into the Botanical History, Chemical properties, and Medicinal qualities, of the Erigeron Canadense, by Cornelius E. De Puy, M. D." In this Memoir the author has given an advantageous specimen of his talent for investigating and exploring a subject. He has selected a native plant: he has given a beautiful figure of it coloured from nature; he has referred it to its place in botanical system; he has investigated it chemically; and lastly he has laboured to find out its remedial powers. Its decoction and infusion promise benefit to those who suffer diarrhœa.

"Botanical Description of the Tillœa connata and Limosella subulata. By Eli Ives, M. D."

This is the history and description of two small aquatic plants, discovered by Professor Ives on the banks of the river Housatonick, and, about the same time, by Mr. Nuttall, on those of the Delaware. These discoveries and descriptions evince the nicety and exactness to which botanical research has arrived among us.

IV. *Surgery.*

"Case of gunshot wound in Major General Ripley. By E. L. Allen, Surgeon in the U. S. Infantry." The writer relates the accident which befell that brave officer, at the sortie from Fort Erie, September 17, 1814. He recovered from a wound by a musket ball, which penetrated his neck from side to side. It entered on the right, an inch and a half below the angle of the jaw, opposite the thyroid cartilage. It carried away the anterior edge of the sternocleido-mastoideus muscle, exposing the carotid artery, passing across the neck, and injuring in its course the lower extremity of the pharynx; after which it went out behind the left mastoid muscle and carotid, lower than the place of entry. The carotids, larynx, and spine escaped. The ball must have passed near the left vertebral artery, and the author thinks, from its direction and the consequent symptoms, did severe injury to the cervical nerves. At the end of six months the patient had recovered from every bad symptom. But his arms were exquisitely sensible to atmospheric changes, and there was a stiffness of the neck.

"Memoir on the subsequent treatment of the head, illustrated by cases, by Valentine Mott, M. D." The author shows in this able and perspicuous paper, that the practice of dressing the head after severe injuries or surgical operations, on the fourth or fifth day, is improper; and that, as a general rule, the head, after such accidents, ought not to be dressed before the fourteenth, or even the sixteenth day from the time of the accident. The excellence of this appears by three cases, wherein the head, after violent injuries and great operations, was left to its original dressings until the fifteenth, and even the sixteenth day after their application.

"Case of Carotid Aneurism, cured by an operation, by Wright Post, M. D."

This is an instance of this formidable operation successfully performed. The patient was a woman thirty-two years old, who had perceived the tumour to be growing for about four years. It having been decided, in a consultation of surgeons, that tying the artery between the heart and the tumour, afforded the only reasonable prospect of cure, the operation was performed thus: "An incision was made three inches in length, on the inner edge of the sterno-mastoid muscle, from the lower part of the tumour to within a quarter of an inch of the clavicle. The dissection was continued between the mastoid, and sterno-thyroid muscles down to the omo-hyoideus. This part of the operation was in a degree embarrassed by the division of two or three small arteries; the blood from which obscured the parts, and which it became necessary to restrain by ligature. The sheath of the vessels was now laid bare, and a sufficient exposure of it being rendered difficult by the omo-hyoideus, this muscle was divided. Care was also necessary to avoid the descendens-noni, which ran over the anterior surface of the sheath. The sheath was now laid open, and the artery detached so as to allow a bent probe, carrying a double ligature, to pass under it. The lower ligature being tied, a further separation of the artery was made, in order to the application of the upper ligature about three quarters of an inch above the lower one, and then the artery was divided between the two.

Nothing remained now but to dress the wound; which was done by bringing the edges into contact, and retaining them in this situation by adhesive straps, leaving the ends of the ligatures out of the wound, and covering the whole lightly with lint." (pp. 368, 369.) The operation was performed on the 28th November, 1816, and the wound was entirely healed, and the patient well, on the 1st January, 1817.

"Case of brachial aneurism, cured by tying the subclavian artery above the clavicle, by Wright Post, M. D." This is another of the successful operations of this eminent surgeon. The subject of it a man aged twenty-seven. The tumour was situated at the upper and inner part of the arm, high up, and extending toward the axilla. The symptoms were so serious, and the aneurism increased so rapidly, that an immediate operation was ordered, and that the artery should be tied above the clavicle. The local disease was of about a month's standing; but there was a constitutional taint of lues.

The mode of proceeding was this:

"An incision, commencing at the external edge of the tendon of the mastoid muscle, was carried through the integuments about three inches in length, in a direction deviating a little from a parallel line with the clavicle. This divided the external jugular vein, the bleeding from which required a ligature for its suppression; and in proceeding with the operation, three or four arterial branches were cut, which it was also necessary to secure. The subclavian artery was then sought for immediately external to the scaleni muscles, and was easily laid bare. Passing over the artery at this place, and in contact with it, were three considerable branches of nerves, running downwards, towards the chest, from the plexus above. These were separated, and the ligature passed under the artery with great facility, by an instrument well adapted to this purpose, invented by Drs. Parish, Hartshorn, and Hewson, of Philadelphia. On tying the ligature all pulsation ceased in the limb. The edges of the wound were now brought together, and secured by suture and adhesive straps, and a light covering of lint finished the dressing." (pp. 389, 390.) The operation was performed on the 7th September, and, on the 16th October the patient was so far recovered that he went home, with the wound entirely healed, and only a few incidental symptoms remaining.

V. *Morbid Anatomy.*

"Case of rupture of the heart, with remarks, by Valentine Mott, M. D." This is an instructive case, illustrated by drawings, of the appearances after a sudden and unexpected death, in the left ventricle, and the surrounding parts.

"Case of a remarkable disease in the Larynx and Trachea, by John C. Cheesman, M. D." with a drawing. A boy four years old died after experiencing a difficulty in breathing for six or eight weeks, with some peculiar symptoms. The seat of the disease was in the larynx and Trachea, on which were discovered warty excrescences, or fleshy tumours very much like them.

"An extraordinary case of obstruction in the colon, by Wright Post, M. D." In the body of a person who expired in sixteen hours after an attack of what seemed to be spasmodic colic. Dissection showed that there was a stricture, or incarceration of the colon, obstructing its passage completely. This was caused in the following manner. The mesentery, near its attachment to the spine was much narrower than usual. By some unaccountable movement of the whole mass of small intestines, it had been made to encircle the colon, and falling by their weight to the lower part of the abdomen, had drawn it so tight around the large intestine as to occasion the fatal obstruction. To release, therefore, the colon from its confinement, it was necessary to raise the whole volume of small intestines forwards and upwards, and then to pass them down behind the distended part of the colon. This removed the cause of the mischief.

VI. *Physiology.*

"Observations on certain causes which influence the decarbonizing function of the lungs, by Charles E. Pierson, M. D." In this essay the author supports the hypothesis, "that there are certain circumstances affecting respiration, which subject the human system to a morbid retention of the carbon of the blood, and thereby produce derangement and disease." We should cheerfully enter into an analysis of the whole matter contained in this tract, if our limits permitted; but, restricted as we are, we refer our readers to the original; where, if they shall not be in all respects convinced, we think they will, notwithstanding, be rewarded for the trouble of perusal.

"Observations on the efficacy of emetics in spasmodic diseases; with an inquiry into the cause of sympathetic vomiting, by Joseph M. Smith, M. D." In this able and ingenious dissertation, Dr. S. undertakes to show the inefficacy of the com-

mon method of treating the spasmodic symptoms of hysteric and epilepsy; to exhibit the superiority of emetics as antispasmodics; to inquire whether their use is not founded on the laws of the animal economy; and to notice some of the diseases in which they may be successfully employed. The views which the author takes of the animal economy evince an accuracy of observation, and a solidity of reasoning, which render his paper worthy of the special attention both of the student and of the practitioner.

"A dissertation on the uniform action of the absorbents, by Cornelius E. De Puy, M. D." In this well-written essay Dr. D. expresses his opinion that the absorbent vessels of the animal body continue an uniform action through every stage of life, and in every condition of body, whether of health or disease, unless when mechanically interrupted. He maintains, that though the heart may be the *primum vivens* of the system, the mouths of absorbents are its true *ultimum moriens;* and he contends that the life which they possess within themselves maintains its ascendancy over the death of the body, until probably they are killed by the poisonous quality of its dissolving materials. The considerations urged by the author evince an original and comprehensive mind; knowing at once how to make observations and to reason upon them. We are sorry we cannot enter into the detail of his statements. The reader will be fully rewarded in the perusal of the entire tract.

(To be continued.)

ART. 5. *A Sketch of the Military and Political Power of Russia, in the year* 1817. New-York. Kirk & Mercein, 8vo. pp. 208.

IT is amusing, though melancholy, to observe how seldom the conduct of mankind comports, not merely with their professions, but even with their honest intentions. The least variation of circumstances that deranges their preconceived plans of operation, too commonly suggests a new principle of action, whilst success itself in the course first marked out, is far from insuring an ultimate issue conformable to the original design. The characters of men are changed not only by the vicissitudes but by the gradations of their fortune. Virtuous resolves and ingenuous feelings are even more easily subdued and perverted by an uninterrupted succession of prosperous events than by the sternest oppugnation of adversity. The fable of the ecclesiastick of Salamanca and the magician exhibits a true picture of the parallel progress of ambition in the mind, and of depravity in the heart.

This divergence of purpose and practice is not less frequent in communities than in individuals. The same vacillation that distracts, and the same inconsistency that disgraces private men, are often seen in the councils and the policy of a government and people.

The French revolution commenced in a project of wholesome reformation in the civil and religious institutions of that country, but a vent once given to the pent-up energies of a nation, their eruption could not be subjected to control. They burst forth like the imprisoned winds of Æolus, and those who had opened a passage to their fury were swept away by their force. In the wreck of the monarchy and the priesthood the lower orders of society rose by the removal of an incumbent weight, and gained some portion of the power and property which had become derelict. But having now a substantial interest at stake on the turn of the contest with their deposed rulers, the security of this interest became the prime object of their consideration, and to attain it they consented to the sacrifice of those political privileges, the acquisition of which had been the principal motive of rebellion. The despotism of Napoleon was more arbitrary, and scarcely less onerous than the *regime* of the Bourbons. But it presented a barrier against the return of the feudal system, and any other evil was deemed comparatively tolerable. Thus was a revolution which began with the cry of "liberty and equality," completed by placing the sceptre that had been wrested from a king in the hands of an emperor! A catastrophe so repugnant to the plot sufficiently confirms our general position in regard to the termination of most human enterprises, and the nature of the causes which influence their evolution, without making the French nation accessary to the measures pursued by Buonaparte towards other states, in contravention of all the maxims which it had professed to reverence. It would, indeed, be difficult to say how far the rash and presumptuous interference of the European sove-

reigns in the affairs of France, whilst the revolution yet wore the features of a domestic reform, might warrant the subsequent departure on her part from defensive ground; or again, how far Buonaparte was himself the creature and the slave of situation. But if France set the example of violating the integrity of states, legitimate princes were not reluctant to obtain *indemnities* by a similar abuse of power. Let not, however, the infamy of originating this system of federative rapine be imputed to France,—it belongs to the authors of the Holy League; to the perpetrators of the partition of Poland! to Russia, Austria, and Prussia.

Much as we deride the fickleness and condemn the turpitude of the French, we see nothing to commend in the conduct of the Allies. Under the assumed title of the "Deliverers of Europe," they enlisted the sympathies of all the friends of freedom in their behalf; and when their efforts were crowned by the overthrow of Napoleon, the credulous philanthropist, was ready to exclaim,

> Magnus ab integro sæclorum nascitur ordo:
> Jam redit et Virgo, redeunt Saturnia regna.

It will be well to inquire whether these expectations have been fulfilled. In settling the political basis of Europe at the Congress of Vienna, in what instance was regard paid to *legitimate* rights when they came into competition with the views of profligate ambition? Where was justice or honour, or the faith of treaties observed towards any object of political jealousy or resentment? What measure was concerted that did not directly or indirectly tend to the aggrandizement of "the high contracting powers?" The divulsion of Norway from Denmark, the dismemberment of Saxony, the perpetuation of the subjection of Poland, the annexation of Holland to the Netherlands under an hereditary King, the commutation of Lucca with a branch of the Spanish Bourbons to obtain an appanage for the Ex-Empress Maria-Louisa, the abandonment of Genoa to the king of Sardinia, the surrender of the Spanish patriots to Ferdinand and the Inquisition, the immersion of Venice and Ragusa in the Austrian dominions, the secularization of the Ecclesiastical Electorates, and of a multitude of Archbishoprics, Bishoprics, and Abbeys, in favour of Bavaria, Baden, Hanover, &c. and the disfranchisement of numerous Imperial Cities, transferred to the petty Princes of Germany, are among the overt acts of this sanctimonious convention; whilst the meditated perfidy against Murat, and, as we are now inclined to believe, against Buonaparte, may be classed among its unmatured atrocities, when the invasion from Elba interrupted the conclave, and suspended for a while its magnanimous deliberations. We did hope better things from those, whose recent experience of the instability of ill-gotten power should have taught them to curb inordinate desires. We even hoped, that laying aside cupidity for territories to which they had no claim, the allied sovereigns would have devised some plan for the introduction of rational liberty into the countries which rightfully belonged to them; and by voluntarily imparting what it is impossible long to withhold, have averted a struggle, to the consequences of which they can neither be blind nor indifferent. Whether the *legitimate* arbitrators of Europe ever entertained, at any time, in good earnest, the idea of restoring the *status quo ante bellum*, should the blessing of that Heaven to which they so devoutly appealed attend their arms—and yet have suffered themselves to be seduced from their faith by the very boon they had invoked; or whether their piety was feigned, and their love of justice simulated to serve an occasion, we shall not undertake to decide: but between their manifestos as belligerents, and their ultimatum as pacificators; between their declarations and their deeds, a discrepancy exists which can only be accounted for on the one supposition or the other.

Whether the actual state of things is more favourable to the future tranquility of Europe, than that condition which would have resulted from a rigid observance of the rule of right, is a question, which if it could be answered in the affirmative, might well be put by the advocates of the 'Holy' Allies; though the admission of the arrangement to be beneficial, would not justify the mode in which it has been effected, nor excuse the falsification of royal promises. But if it shall appear that as little regard has been paid in the division of power to the protection of the peace of the world against unprincipled usurpation, as has been shown to the conservation of the rights of the people, and of the honour of kings, it must then be admitted, that this arbitrary allotment of population and allegiance, is as impolitic as it is immoral. That a worse tyranny has been imposed upon any nation than it endured under the domination of the French, we shall not contend—it is enough that the hopes of emancipation have been defeated. The French themselves are

perhaps the only absolute sufferers by the change of dynasties and boundaries; and possibly their regrets spring chiefly from chagrin. But in the consternation created among the European States by the menacing attitude of Napoleon, every other apprehension was absorbed; and whilst guarding with too much zeal against imminent danger from this source, both governors and governed have been wholly insensible to other occasions of alarm, which though more remote, are not less appalling. These, have not perceived in the annihilation of the supremacy of the popular will in France, the rivetting of the fetters by which they are themselves enthralled; and those have not discovered that in freeing themselves from one foreign yoke they have bowed their necks to receive another. Certain it is, however, that the only concert that prevails among the confederated princes, consists in a common endeavour to repress the expanding sentiments of their subjects; whilst there is reason to believe that in the general connivance at encroachments on the proscribed and defenceless, an inequality of acquisition has destroyed all political balance.

The book before us, which rumour has ascribed to the pen of Sir Robert Wilson, contains some striking and interesting views of the military means and dispositions of Russia. We shall extract largely from the work, as we concur in many of the author's sentiments, both in regard to past transactions and present prospects. We do not, however, enter into all his opinions. He betrays an adulatory spirit towards Buonaparte, which in the historian of the *Expedition to Egypt*, is as contemptible as it is base; and expresses himself, in other respects, with a feeling of party animosity, with which we have no sympathy. He is too passionate to be candid, and too assuming to inspire confidence. Indeed his pretensions to superior skill and unlimited information, and his unparalleled audacity of assertion in cases where he can neither be confirmed nor confuted, are calculated to excite disgust. But he has often appealed to facts to fortify his arguments; and the jealousy which is daily discovering itself, among the Allies, of the constantly developing energies of Russia, shows that he is not singular either in his suspicions or his fears.

An article of an important nature was lately published in an English ministerial paper, (we believe the Courier,) under the head of *Frankfort*. It has been repeatedly asserted, in the opposition prints, that the paragraph was manufactured in London. We do not know that the charge has been denied. With this article, and the observations of the London editor, the SKETCH, &c. commences. Our author informs us that he has inserted them entire, "as the basis of that inquiry, and those reflections which follow." It will be proper, therefore, for us to lay them before our readers.

"It seems to be necessary, that Europe should be acquainted with her danger. The danger does not and will not come from England, or from France, or from Austria. It will come from the North—from Russia. Russia is the power which is desirous of assuming the high and dictatorial attitude which France assumed under the tyranny of Buonaparte. It is on this account she did every thing in her power to prevent the intimate alliance between England and the Netherlands, by a marriage between the two families, and to connect the House of Orange with the imperial family of Russia. It is for this purpose she brought about the marriage of the King of Wurtemberg with the Dutchess of Oldenburgh. It is for this purpose she is connecting herself also by family ties with the House of Brandenburgh. It is with this view that she does not view with much displeasure the charges of foreign libellers against England, because they may tend to weaken the esteem and respect for that great nation; or those constant attacks upon the government of France, which may tend to keep up alarm and apprehension in the interior of that country. She relies upon alienating England and France from each other, by encouraging reciprocal jealousies and ill will."—*Frankfort.*

"We are disposed to give the Frankfort writer credit for the sincerity of his fears; but we own we do not share them, nor do we contemplate affairs in the same point of view. In the first place, he relies too much upon the operations and effects of family alliances. The experience of all history shows us how feeble they are whenever they at all clash with any favourite plan of policy, of ambition, or aggrandizement. We know not, and care not, what influence Russia had, or whether she had any, in breaking off the intended marriage between the families of Brunswick and of Orange; because the union between the families of Brunswick and of Saxony has given perfect satisfaction to the people of this country; and surely no prince could have been selected, whose conduct could have been more highly praiseworthy than the conduct of the Prince Saxe Cobourg. The opinion we have given of the effect of marriages in general between sovereign families, will apply to the other marriages the Frankfort Correspondent has alluded to. Wurtemberg indeed! What effect can she produce, or what weight can she have in the scale of European policy? With respect to the charges of foreign libellers against England, we are not astonished

at them, because they come from notorious jacobins; nay, we are willing to go farther, and assert, that we have deserved it at their hands. We put them down, and their libels and calumnies are the natural offspring of revenge and disappointment. But we have often been surprised at the impunity and asylum that were so long afforded them. Surely no power in Europe is under greater obligations to England than the government of the Netherlands. It was the influence of this country, in a great measure, that, combining the United Provinces with the Netherlands, established the family of Orange upon a powerful throne:—one of the wisest strokes of policy that could have been devised. It seems to us to be absurd to suppose that the kingdom of the Netherlands could give into any views of aggrandizement which Russia might have, or enter into any offensive treaty with her, against France and England: for such a policy would *combine both* against her. And what efficacious service could Russia, so distantly situate, render her? Besides it is to be considered, that the developement of such a policy would not be viewed with indifference or inertness by Austria. And in such a state of affairs as that to which the Frankfort Correspondent alludes, it would not be difficult to find employment on the side of Turkey. But we repeat, that we consider the fears of the Frankfort Correspondent as chimerical We do not believe Russia to have any such intentions. That, which in all former times was deemed improbable, is now not only probable, but apparent and extant. England and France have discovered it to be their interest to be firmly and cordially united; and we, perhaps, do not hazard much in affirming, that there are no two courts in Europe between whom a better understanding subsists. Austria is united to both with the same cordiality and intimacy. *And now we should be glad to ask, what could any other power, or all of them together effect against the union of Great Britain, Austria, and France?* The peace of Europe is not likely to be soon disturbed. No power has any motive in disturbing it; all have powerful motives in preserving it."—*London.*

Qui s'excuse s'accuse, says our author. And certainly a similar inference may be drawn from this officious defence of Russia, and the evident anxiety to prove her as incapable of harm as innocent of meditating it.

The author of the Sketch affects to regret the agitation of this question; but since it has been made a theme of discussion he promises to investigate it dispassionately, and to demonstrate "that the folly of the provocation is augmented by the total want of means to sustain the challenge." To this end he takes a brief review of the Russian European history; which is sufficiently familiar to all politicians, without this recapitulation. The plans of Peter the great have been assiduously pursued by his successors. Of those, Catharine the second, who possessed the greatest genius, accomplished the most. She added to her dominions, the Crimea, Caucasus, and the country of the Cossacks, besides a large share of Poland. The reign of Paul was fertile in projects and in failures.

"Alexander came to the throne," says the author of the Sketch, "with strong predilections in his favour—real personal good qualities had gained the affections of all who approached him; and, as the pupil of La Harpe, expectation was raised high as to his capacity for government. The "Telemachus of the North" was not then inebriated with power, but, instructed in his duties by a Mentor endowed with intelligence and virtue, exercised the authority of a despotic sovereign to establish philanthropy as the basis of his throne.*

An enemy to the costly vanities of some of his predecessors, he regulated the expenses of his palaces with economy, and applied his treasures to the foundation of useful establishments, the promotion of useful public works, the equipment of his arsenals, and the augmentation of his army—Temperate, active, and indefatigable, he transacted the business of government through direct correspondence of personal superintendence; and, familiar with the statistics, topography, and interests of the various people inhabiting his extensive empire, he cherished the general prosperity by a polity adapted to the wants of *each* and *all*.

"Such *was* Alexander: the same fidelity of description shall represent him as *he is;* since the individual character of an autocrat, whose *will* is the only *professed* principle of government, must always have paramount influence on the measures of his cabinet.

"Alexander had no alternative but to make peace with England: it was indeed the implied condition of his succession. His feelings were in unison with his obligations, and he profited by the improvement of his finances, to bring into action many sources of wealth and strength which had been heretofore unemployed.

"Notwithstanding a never-ceasing wasteful expenditure of men and money on the Persian and Moldavian frontiers, his dock-yards were constantly adding to his navy, and his depots advancing newly-formed battalions.

"Involved, as an ally of Austria, in the disaster of the battle of Austerlitz, (a battle precipitately resolved on, and lost, it may be truly said, before the combat began, by an injudicious flank movement,) Alexander himself perhaps was the only man of his army who did not descend the Carpathian mountains despairing to retrieve the misfortunes and disgrace of that campaign. Exertions were multiplied according to the exigency; and when Napoleon passed the

* Vide the Ukases, respecting the condition of the slaves—their non-transfer by sale from the land—the abolition of the punishment of death—the rare punishment of the knoot, &c. &c.

Rhine to attack Prussia, *one hundred and twenty thousand* Russians were advancing to her support.

"The battle of Jena, which in one day overthrew the Prussian monarchy, and in fourteen days advanced the French standards to the Vistula, disconcerted the intended operations, and threw Russia upon the defensive on her own frontier, with only *five* or *six thousand* dispirited auxiliaries, which had escaped the wreck, instead of the *two hundred and forty thousand* men, who a few days previously had been arrayed to co-operate with her.

"The battles of Pultusk, of Eylau, of Heilsberg, and Friedland, could not (or rather, *in one instance*, that of Eylau, *did* not) prevent the enemy's successive approach to the Niemen; and Alexander, alarmed at his situation, accepted the conditions of peace that Napoleon offered, and which *he* not only rendered *advantageous to Russia*, but *embellished with circumstances of respect* to the sovereign, that soothed the feelings of disappointment and defeat.

The unsuccessful issue of Sir George Duckworth's expedition, and the result of the *unauthorised* movement of the British troops from Alexandria on Rosetta (for the enterprise against Alexandria itself was undertaken at the express suggestion of the Russian cabinet) had certainly much chagrined Alexander, and given such an accession of force to the Turks as to oblige the march of reinforcements to that frontier, when they could not be spared without danger to other points of great interest: but the *real* motive, which disposed him to peace, was a conviction, from a short residence at the army, that it was too *weak in numbers*, and too *disorganized*, from want of *elementary* arrangements, to defend from invasion the provinces of Poland incorporated in Russia, where a spirit of insurrection was to be apprehended; whilst he knew that the succours, announced as on a march, were not in existence, and that there were not *twenty thousand* men in reserve to cover *both* his Capitals.

"Peace, which restored a throne to his ally, although some of the richest jewels of the crown remained in possession of the invader, diminished much of the personal regret which Alexander had felt as a man for the issue of the war—Peace, which gave him a farther portion of Poland, which sanctioned his views in Turkey, as far as the Danube, and the conquest of the important province of Finland, was favourable to his general policy; but peace, which gave him *time*, and by which he was resolved to profit, was, with the experience which he had acquired of the imperfections of his military system, of still greater, and, as he said himself, "*of the greatest value.*"

"The attack on Copenhagen, which Alexander always declared to be unjustifiable, (as the then Crown Prince of Denmark had determined on maintaining the strictest neutrality, and resisting any infraction *whatsoever*, whether from the land or the sea,) afforded him the pretext for declaring war against England; a policy in which he persevered, notwithstanding circumstances were recalled to his mind calculated to deter him from carrying into execution so unpopular a measure.

"The seizure of Finland was most unjustifiable; but the acquisition was of the same importance to Russia, as Normandy, under English dominion, would be to France. The consequent dethronement of the then reigning dynasty in Sweden was never anticipated by Alexander, and will always be deplored by him, until the injury is compensated either by indemnity or restoration.

"Napoleon, having again invaded Austria, to punish equivocal negociations, when he was embarrassed, after the battle of Eylau*, as well as to anticipate hostile arrangements in progress, summoned Russia as an auxiliary to invade Austria on the side of Gallicia. Her armies overran that province, and advanced to Olmutz, when the Austrian cabinet resolved on peace, and agreed to give a *pledge* of permanent friendship—a pledge, which Russia is believed to have declined to give after the peace of Tilsit.

"Peace again added to the Russian empire an extensive and important district of territory; and, although it has since been relinquished, its re-occupation awaits but the *convenience* of the Emperor.

"The defence of Gallicia is as impossible, since Russia has the Duchy of Warsaw, *six hundred thousand* men to act *with*, and a friendly population to march *on*, as the maintenance of the country between the Vistula and the Niemen, now under the Prussian dominion, would prove to be, if Russia should ever resolve on its possession, unless Prussia negociated cession and indemnity.

"A *strong English party* continued to exist in Russia; and the commercial interest, which embraces the interest of a great part of the Russian nobility, murmured loudly at the detriment occasioned to their fortunes, and therefore to the general prosperity of the empire, by the English maritime blockade. Still Alexander persisted; but, bearing in mind the impressions of the campaign on the Vistula, he applied himself unremittingly to improve the administration of the army, as well as to the increase of its numbers.

"Napoleon, who had expected and hoped the Turkish war would have exhausted the treasure and military resources of Russia, or at all events have prevented the growth of her disposable force, saw, with astonishment and apprehension, the result of Alexander's administrative measures.

"In three years Russia had lost, of her Moldavian armies, by climate rather than by the sword, *thirty-six* generals, and an *hundred and twenty thousand* men. Still an army of

* Napoleon said to the Austrian general sent to reconnoitre his force and situation, and who did not arrive until after the danger was passed, "Go back and tell your master he is too months too late, I am now ready."

sixty thousand strong, better equipped, organized, and disciplined, than Russia ever before had, and which equalled, perhaps *exceeded* in general composition, any army in Europe, was stationed on the line of the Danube, and occasionally blockaded the Turkish army in Schumla, (at the foot of the Balkan mountains,) the rampart of Constantinople—a rampart, which a general like Napoleon would long since have prostrated by his genius and kindling spirit of enterprise.

" The Persian war had consumed annually from *ten* to *twenty thousand* men; but every year improved the Russian lines of communication, and gradually weakened the Persian frontier.

" Instead of one feeble army to guard the Niemen, *one hundred and eighty thousand* men were formed in three lines to repel any attack, and *another* considerable body of troops was stationed in Finland; all the *arsenals* were full of stores—*fifteen hundred* pieces of cannon in the field—*recruits* were training in every province—and a *militia* was instituted through the whole empire.

" Napoleon, who had never forgotten the battle of Eylau, and the martial qualities of a Russian army, saw the time was come when Russia was either to assume that attitude, which was the object of *his* ambition, a settlement in Europe, which from the *strategical* properties of her position and numerous population assured her the command of the continent, or, that she was to be dislodged, broken, repelled, and reduced, until she became again little more than an Asiatic power. He selected that moment to commence his operation, because he feared Russia might prevail on the Turks to make peace, and that England would acquire more influence from her good offices on that occasion; perhaps, also, he had *good reason* to suspect, that the character of the protracted war in Spain was reviving the hostile feelings of unwilling allies, and connecting them in alliances of reciprocal resistance and support.

" In opposition to the advice of many of his best officers and statesmen, he refused to send *eighty thousand* more men to complete the conquest of the Peninsula, and disgust the English nation with continental wars, by a failure of hopes so highly excited, and so expensively supported. He always replied, that it was most judicious to leave the English army engaged in a country remote from one, where, in his view, they might more efficaciously contribute to the prejudice of his interests.

" At the head of a *confederate* army of above *four hundred thousand* men, Napoleon accused Alexander of a violation of treaties, and demanded their renewal."

We shall not enter into a detail of this campaign, the occurrences and termination of which are fresh in recollection. Had we a disposition to go over the ground with our author, we have no means of judging of the correctness of his decisions in regard to military operations, on which he pronounces with a peremptoriness that would be unbecoming in any man, and which in an anonymous pamphleteer is most absurd and ridiculous. Yet, incompetent as we are to convict him of error, on points on which we may possibly be a little more ignorant than himself, his inaccuracy, and even anachronisms in regard to historical events of a remoter period, of which he pretends to speak knowingly, have destroyed all claim to confidence, even were his demands as modest and moderate as they are impudent and unlimited. We will however copy, though we question its truth, as presenting to the imagination a vivid picture of the horrors attending the memorable retreat from Moscow, the following description of the miserable deaths of multitudes of the famished, fugitive invaders.

" In the hospitals of Wilna there were left above seventeen thousand dead and dying, frozen and freezing. The bodies of the former, *broken up*, served to stop the cavities in windows, floors, and walls; but in one of the corridores of the Orear Convent, above fifteen hundred bodies were piled up transversely, as pigs of lead or iron. When these were finally removed on sledges to be burnt, the most extraordinary figures were presented by the variety of their attitudes, for none seemed to have been frozen in a composed state: each was fixed in the last action of his life, in the last direction given to his limbs: even the eyes retained the last expression, either of anger, pain, or entreaty. In the roads men were collected round the burning ruins of the cottages, which a mad spirit of destruction had fired, picking and eating the burnt bodies of fellow men; while thousands of horses were moaning in agony, with their flesh mangled and hacked to satisfy the cravings of a hunger that knew no pity. In many of the sheds, men, scarcely alive, had heaped on their frozen bodies human carcasses, which, festering by the communication of animal heat, had mingled the dying and the dead in one mass of putrefaction."

We rejoin our author and Alexander at the close of the first campaign.

" Alexander, during this crisis, had displayed a degree of firmness which deranged all the calculations of Napoleon and his coadjutors. He pledged himself, *as a sovereign and a man*, that he would never treat with Napoleon *whilst there was an armed enemy in his country;* and his inflexible firmness rendered nugatory those attempts at negotiation, which are reported not to have received the same discouragement in other quarters.

" His views even then embraced the future; and an anecdote industriously circulated at a subsequent period, relative to the

transactions at Abo, affords a memorable and splendid proof of his prospective policy.

" England and Russia had determined to adopt the same line of proceeding with regard to Denmark as had occasioned, according to the declaration of Alexander, the war between those two nations.—Such are the unfixed, and it may be said, revolutionary principles of cabinets!

" Alexander insisted that Sweden should be indemnified by Norway for Finland, in case Denmark refused to join the coalition.

" The English minister, forgetting that Russia, by the possession of ALAND, SWEABORG, and the WHOLE GULPHS OF FINLAND AND BOTHNIA, was, in fact, mistress of STOCKHOLM, agreed to an annexation, which surrendered a country, so important for its *maritime** resources, ports, and position, to the same *influence* and *authority*. The treaty being signed, Alexander, who, as before said, never forgets the unintentional wrong which he did to his nephew, developed the true object of the arrangement, by saying to Bernadotte, ' If Napoleon fails in his attack against my empire, and the French throne becomes vacant by the result of his defeat, I shall think no one so eligible as yourself for that station.' Important words, which serve as a key to explain many of the future mysteries, and which have not yet lost their value; although Bernadotte does not enjoy equal consideration in the eyes of Russia, since he did not acquire the expected suffrages of the French people, and afford the desired opportunity for the re-establishment of the ancient dynasty.

" Alexander, after joining the army at Wilna, had afforded useful encouragement to personal exertions by his own exemplary endurance of privations, cold, fatigue, &c.; an example, which, added to great affability, produced, not only very beneficial effects on the soldiery, but which sustained the enthusiasm of the Russian nation. In the head quarters at Kalish he was equally remarkable for diligence. Couriers, with autograph letters, in many instances were dispatched in all directions to bring up the recovered wounded and sick, to advance the new recruits and medical stores, and to infuse the ardour of the sovereign into every department of the government.

" The efforts obtained full success: voluntary contributions in men and money poured in from the nobility; and the whole empire resounded with the huzzas of triumph, hymns of thanksgiving, and the Pashol, or march word, ' for Poland, and Paris.'

The Cossacks, enriched with the immense booty which their vigilance, activity, and valour, had acquired, streamed from the Don; and the oldest veterans, and youngest boys capable of wielding a lance, were seen daily amongst the reinforcements arriving to range themselves under the banner of their *justly* venerated Hetman.

" The operations of the cabinet were no less vigorously conducted, and no less successfully accomplished.

" The King of Prussia, who had disclaimed the conduct of General York, and who had resolved on faithfully adhering to his treaties with Napoleon, at last signed the treaty of offensive and defensive alliance with Russia; but he acquiesced only an hour before the signature was affixed; and only then, under the suggestion, that in case of refusal, it was possible a *provisional* government might be established in his kingdom.*

" In the month of May, an army of about *eighty thousand* Russians, and *sixty thousand* Prussians, passed the Elbe, near Wittenberg and Dresden.

" Napoleon, who had been no less active and energetic, presented himself at Lutzen; where, from an injudicious disposition of the cavalry, and the want of simultaneous efforts on the part of the allies, he gained a sanguinary victory, which would have ruined their armies, if he could have brought any cavalry into the field to press the retreat.†

" Reinforcements replaced the Russian losses; negotiations offered by Napoleon were rejected; and the battle of Bautzen was hazarded, contrary to all military science and political prudence.

" The French, by an attack in flank of a salient position, overpowered the Prussians (who fought gallantly) and gained the ground; but the retreat, ending in the affair of Reichenbach, where Duroc was killed, added to the honour of the Russians and the confidence of the allies.

" The armistice ensued; and, during the negotiations, above *sixty thousand* good troops from Odessa, and distant provinces, entered the Russian camps.

" Austria was still unwilling to quit the position of arbitrator, and join the coalition, whilst the interests of Napoleon required peace to dissolve a confederacy which every day enlarged and cemented. Pride or destiny prevailed. He would not write even a *conciliatory* note to his *father-in-law*, which would have sufficed to prolong the period prescribed for the diplomatic answer; and the Austrians marched!"

We shall for reasons already stated omit the detail and discussion of military movements and successes—which are cursorily criticised, with an air of conscious superiority, by the author of the Sketch; and shall pay no regard to the opinions and insinuations he has contrived to connect with them. As a specimen of his candour and judgment, it may, however, be well to mention that he

* It is computed that Norway furnished ten thousand sailors to England.

* Napoleon, who knew this anecdote, and alluded to it in one of his bulletins, always spoke of the good faith of the King of Prussia with much respect.

† The Russian rear guard could not pass the Elbe for ten days; during which time it was embarrassed with the protection of *ten thousand* four wheeled carriages of every description, moving along the same road

ascribes the capture of Paris, solely to treachery, and thinks that Buonaparte who "with *sixty thousand* brave and indefatigable men, had baffled the operations of *two hundred thousand*, for more than six weeks," was just on the point of achieving victory—when "the movement on St. Dizier which merited *empire*, lost him his *crown*."

The Allies however, having somehow obtained possession of the metropolis, we are next instructed in the process by which the Bourbons were reinstated in the throne, and in divers other mysteries, of which our author seems to have been the depositary.

"Alexander had for some time been obliged to relinquish the proposed arrangements in favour of Bernadotte, who had loitered at Liege, and who, in fact, had done too much for his *character* in France, and too little for his *interests* with the allies.*

"Alexander, personally, as it was believed, ill-disposed to the Bourbon family, reluctantly acquiesced in the proposition. The king of Prussia did not object; but Schwartzenberg for a few instants was silent, and Tallerand was uneasy, if not alarmed. Schwartzenberg, however, probably unwilling to charge himself with the responsibility of a refusal (his sovereign and Metternich being absent) did not finally withhold his assent; and thus, by two *foreign* sovereigns, a *foreign* marshal, and an *ex*-minister, was Louis *chosen*—King of France!—*legitimate pretensions*, and the subsequently alleged *right* and *title* to the throne, not in the remotest degree influencing that choice.

"The defection of Marmont, accompanied with the contingent events, terminated the war; and Napoleon, still an emperor, proceeded to his asylum, overthrown, but not overcome.

"Alexander, who had been ambitious at Chatillon to stipulate for the entrance of some battalions of his guards into Paris, that he might in some degree balance parades at the Thuilleries against those of the Kremlin, and whose anxiety on this point had been one of the real obstacles to the conclusion of peace, now saw himself in possession of the *French capital*, the *creator* of its new monarchy, and the *arbiter* of its destinies!

"Gratified in his vanities, but not intoxicated by his successes, he sought after, and acquired by his policy and mildness, the affections of all parties. To the *Royalists* he was the guardian of the *royal dynasty*—to the *Napoleonists* he was the preserver of the integrity of France, and to the *Constitutionalists* he was the *champion* of a *liberal government*. But in this moment of triumph he never forgot Russia, and added largely to former importations for the advancement of the arts, science, and industry in that country.

"The *negociations* of Paris regulated the points at issue with France, and left the fate of Naples, Saxony, and Poland, to be settled at Congress; whilst the allotment of Belgium, and the destiny of the kingdom of Italy were definitely arranged, although not officially promulgated.

"The Emperor of Austria had always declared that he would never reoccupy the Milanese states, in any event of the war; but Alexander, resolved on the acquisition of the Duchy of Warsaw, insisted on Austria's taking to herself those provinces, as compensating aggrandizements; thus the *kingdom* of Italy, whose independence had so often been guaranteed by these very powers in their treaties with Napoleon, and whose moral regeneration had been commensurate with its political growth, was again reduced to a *provincial* dependence."*

The reply to this groan over Italy is anticipated.

"It may be said, that the kingdom of Italy was a fief to Napoleon—it was so, but not to France. The two crowns, after his decease, were never to be placed on the same head.'

Unanswerable logic!

"The two crowns after his decease, *were never*, &c."

Profound statesman!

The lament over the fallen fortunes of Italy, and the panegyric on the virtues of Napoleon which ensue, are most unfortunately conjoined, if the writer really meant to appeal to the condolence of honest hearts; for that breast which could beat with tenderness for the miseries of a subjugated and degraded people, must always throb with indignation at the mention of a stern and selfish tyrant, whose crimes ought never to be forgotten in his punishment.

"Whilst the congress was reconstructing Europe, not according to *rights, natural affiances, language, habits*, or *laws;* but by *tables of finance*, which divided and subdivided her population into *souls, demi-souls*, and even *fractions*, according to a scale of the direct duties or taxes which could be levied by the

* Nevertheless, England was true to her engagement, nay, to the *constructive* spirit of it; for she employed her fleet, the fleet of a free people, in blockading the Norwegian ports, to compel a reluctant nation, by *famine*, to receive the yoke; although that nation only required neutrality from England, that she might negotiate or fight for her independence. The Swedish government seems to have acted towards the Norwegians, when obliged to capitulate, with great liberality and good sense: but this conduct does not affect the question of the right of England to make over a nation to another power, because its own government refused to break its neutrality; nor does it mitigate the reproach of England for employing her arms in such a service

* Alexander had at that time determined to make himself King of Poland, and recommended the Emperor of Austria to preserve the Italian *monarchy*, and wear the iron crown; but the Emperor refused, as he was afraid to keep alive the recollections of independence. But the debarkation of Napoleon in 1815, forced acquiescence in a measure, which the Italians had much at heart.

acquiring state, the festivities of victory were not suspended; but, if Alexander whirled, after the fashion of his country, in the circling dance, *his* head never lost its equipoise, *his* revelry never encroached on *his* hours of business, nor did *his* amusements divert *his* mind from more grave occupations."

The invasion of Buonaparte from Elba, which broke up the congress, caused the Allies once more to occupy Paris. They obtained possession of this city by a convention, containing the following stipulations.

"ART. XII. Private persons and property shall be equally respected. The inhabitants, and, *in general, all individuals,* who shall be in the capital, shall continue to enjoy their rights and liberties, without being disturbed or called to account, either as to the situations which they hold or may have held, or *as to their conduct or political opinions.*

"ART. XV. If difficulties arise in the execution of any one of the articles of the present Convention, the interpretation of it shall be made *in favour of the French army and of the city of Paris.*

Notwithstanding this express guarranty of oblivion and indemnity, Labedoyere, Ney, Lavalette, &c. were arraigned by the Bourbons, for their concern in the revolution, and, with the exception of the last, who was rescued principally by the intrepidity of the reputed author of this very work, were ignominiously executed in the face, nay under the countenance, of the allied armies. We would not mitigate the terms of reproach in which our author vents his detestation of this dereliction of truth and honour.

"The Royalists of France say, the king was no party; and that a king cannot be bound by the arrangements or promises of *foreign generals,* that he should not administer *his own* laws: but a convention, according to all the writers on the laws of nations, and the usages of war, is binding on those who *sign* and on those who *benefit* by the instrument; for no party in law can select the advantage, and then reject the inconvenience by denial of participation in the contract. Count Macironi, however, says, and his assertion has never been contradicted, that Talleyrand, the *minister of Louis,* was present on the morning of the 4th of July, when the Duke of Wellington, Sir Charles Stuart, and Pozzo di Borgo were *assembled in council;* and that Talleyrand, turning to *the Duke,* requested him to read to the Count *the capitulation they had just concluded.*

"It was, however, of no consequence to the people of Paris whether the king agreed or not. The *allied commanders* had *guaranteed* their safety *against all persecutions for political opinions and conduct;* and, if remonstrance failed, they were bound to protect them by *force of arms!* Europe was also obliged to support these measures, and maintain the plighted faith, as much, and even more than she was to avenge political injuries.

"An English nobleman, whose acquaintance with the public laws of nations and the duties of honour is commensurate with his natural benevolence, when writing on that subject, to produce a decision in unison with his sense of justice, observed:—

"What is passing at Paris distresses me more than I can describe—for Lavalette, on the score of private acquaintance, though slight, I am much concerned; but from regard to the character of our country, I have conceived more horror at the trials and executions going on in the teeth of our capitulation than mere humanity could create. How can it be asserted that the impunity for political conduct extends only to impunity from the allies for offences committed against them? Where ships strike—where garrisons surrender—do the captains or commanders stipulate, that the foreign conqueror shall not molest their former political exertions? With or without such stipulations, what shadow of right has a foreign enemy to punish individuals for opinions held, or conduct pursued in their own country?

"It is clear, the impunity promised was impunity for crimes, real or supposed, against a French government. If the French government was a party to that promise, by that promise it must abide. If not, the other allies are bound in honour not to deliver over a town taken in virtue of it, without exacting the same terms from those to whom they deliver it.

"Had we taken Martinique in 1793 or 1794, on a promise of not molesting individuals for political operations or conduct, should we have been at liberty to cede it, had Louis XVIII. been then restored, without insisting on the impunity of all political offences; or, at the very least, on the right of leaving the country for such as might have so offended?

"In Egypt, the French stipulated, that no persons should be molested for their conduct or opinions during the war. We took military possession of the country on those terms, and delivered it over to the *political* authority of the Ottoman Porte. When, however, the Captain Pacha acting under that authority began murdering the Beys, and proceeding against the adherents of the French, we not only remonstrated and threatened, but we actually protected the persecuted men within our lines,"* (and Lord Hutchinson marched the British army in line of battle, with loaded guns, on the Pacha's camp, giving to the Captain Pacha *but five minutes to surrender the living and the dead in his possession.*†) 'What would have been done by the English commander in Spain if the troops had surrendered any town to the French with a similar stipulation; and if, on the flimsy and hypocritical subterfuge of a distinction be-

* Observation of the Author.

† Sir Sidney Smith had already consecrated in Egypt and Arabia the good faith of England.

tween king Joseph's Spanish government and the French military authorities, all the Spaniards, who had assisted us during the siege, had been prosecuted for treason against Joseph?'"

But to return to the course of the Russian monarch.

"Alexander, having accomplished all his designs, and maintained a supremacy which the *rival* powers did not dare to dispute, quitted France to review his armies, visit Prussia, receive the homage of Poland, and return to his capital, there to conciliate a growing discontent at his absence, and repair the mischiefs which it had occasioned to private interests and to various branches of the public service.

"The Nobles thought he was becoming a *foreigner*, and they required a *Russian monarch*; but these were only the ill-humours of a day; the glory acquired to the *Russian name*, and the vast increase of power added to her sceptre, ensured him the applause and allegiance of a class enamoured of autocracy, elated with glory, and ambitious of national aggrandizement.

"Alexander, however, did not trust to *force alone* for the prosecution of his future designs, or the maintenance of his ascendancy. He knew, that family alliances, at *variance* with national policy, would never preserve permanent influence; but he also was sensible that, when they were made in *unison* with it, they were additional securies, monitors, and guards.

"The marriage, which would have united *England and Holland*, was always conceived, by the continental statesmen, calculated to involve Europe in wars against natural interests, and the negotiations from the commencement were viewed with great and unconcealed jealousy.

"The presumed alliance was no sooner broken off than Russia directed her attention to the advantages which she might derive from a family interest being established on the throne of Holland.

"Her fleets, shut up in the Baltic half the year by the seasons, were (especially since the destruction of the Swedish and Danish navies) costly superfluities rather than an useful establishment adding to her importance or assisting her interests. The waters of the Texel and the Scheldt would afford powers of navigation, administering to all *immediate* objects, and contributive to more *remote* designs.

"Holland, as a *maritime* state, could not be injured by a *maritime* auxiliary, over whose fleets she was the guardian; and the alliance with Russia assured that *military* support, which she required for the preservation of her continental possessions.

"To Russia, Holland was a *tete du pont*, or advanced work, which awed France, and which aided the control over Prussia. To Holland, Russia was a protecting ally against both those powers, with a spear and a shield to defend her from England.

"Reciprocal benefits, so unequivocal and so considerable, were apparent to both parties; and the Grand Duchess Anne, who might, it is believed, have mounted *the throne of France*, having accepted the proposals of the Prince of Orange, is destined to succeed to another throne, which she is equally qualified to grace.

"The position of Wurtemburg was not of equal importance; but still the extension of Russian influence in Germany, where already Weimar, Baden, and Oldenburgh were under its sway, was desirable.

"A young and gallant prince, whose military services were then considered to be the least of his claims to public esteem, was married to a princess of Bavaria. Separation took place instantaneously after the ceremony, as the marriage had been compulsive. Divorce was obtained,* and the Grand Duchess Catharine, whose *name*, activity, talents, and attachment to her native country rendered her the general object of its affection, was established in succession to a kingdom, of whose reigning monarch Napoleon said, 'if that man had but *fifty thousand* soldiers, he would weave me a more difficult web than any I have ever had to disentangle.'

"Personal feelings, as well as policy, suggested the connexion just solemnized at St. Petersburg with a princess of Prussia—a connexion full of recollections to bind, if any human arrangement can permanently bind, the friendship between crowns.

"Having thus traced a summary narrative of the principal points and facts, which characterized the policy of Russia, and have tended to her aggrandizement—a summary which will acquire *interest* the *more* it is examined and the *more* it is developed—the question may be investigated which has been proposed, *viz. how far any combination of France, England, and Austria, can control the policy Russia may be disposed to pursue?*"

To solve this question the writer undertakes to display the progression and present state of the Russian empire. We shall give a very succinct summary of his statements. When Catharine the second mounted the throne in 1762, she received the homage of *twenty-two millions* of people. She reigned thirty-three years, and during that period had increased the number of her subjects to *thirty-six millions*. Besides the natural augmentation of population, she had added *seven millions* of Poles, including Courlanders; *two millions and a half* of the inhabitants of New Servia, between the Boristhenes and the Don; *half a million* of Germans and other settlers; *two millions* in the Caucasus, Siberia, Little Tartary, the Crimea, &c. The short and turbulent reign of Paul witnessed no considerable

* The virtues of this princess have since placed her on the throne of Austria.

increase or diminution in the aggregate population of the country. In 1800 Alexander commenced his reign over thirty-six millions of subjects. His armies, however, were not sufficiently numerous for the extent of his possessions, nor proportionate to those kept up by the other great states of Europe. Their organization too was imperfect. His finances were, moreover, in a deranged and unproductive condition.

" To what extent Alexander has accomplished all his undertakings, without forgetting the interests he was bound to protect, may be difficult to prove, since there is no direct mode to ascertain the opinion of his subjects by the discussions of a *free press;* but as far as the prevalence of tranquillity in every province under his sway—as far as ostensible improvements, in all military economy, and general order in all branches of the administration—can authorize the presumption, an extraordinary amelioration must have taken place.

" Bodies of recruits, of which three-fifths used to perish in the journey, now arrive with no more than common casualties; and so far from the spirit of the people being worn down by demands for military service and augmentation of taxes, patriotism has acquired devotional ardour, and the state has not found it necessary to impose any additional burthens upon its inhabitants.

" The ground on which the town of Odessa now stands did not contain, in the year 1794, one house or inhabitant: now there are one thousand houses in stone, and above forty thousand residents. Eight hundred ships annually sail from the port; and such quantities of corn are exported, that this part of the world, as in the time of the Greeks and Romans, promises to be the chief granary of the Mediterranean.

" Tcherkaz, near the mouth of the Don, in the sea of the Azof, is no less prosperous.

" Astrakan, at the mouth of the Volga, by the last treaty with Persia (which gives the exclusive navigation of the Caspian Sea to the Russian flag) has obtained equal advantages.

" The *internal navigation* from the White and Baltic to the Caspian and Black Seas has been improved by various great works, and others are in progress.

" The city of Petersburgh has been embellished at the expense of *five millions of roubles annually;* so that three-fourths of the houses are now *palaces of stone*, and the city itself has become the most magnificent in the world, for its buildings, its quays, its canals, and the pellucid waters of the majestic Neva.

" The impulse has not been confined to the European provinces; but Siberia, to which such terrible images have been attached, from the supposed intolerable rigour of its climate, and its associating ideas of misery and unjust suffering, is become a *fertilized* and *productive* country, inhabited by *voluntary* settlers—amongst them many foreigners; and not only the city of Tobolsk, enriched by every species of European and Asiatic luxury, is growing into a very considerable capital, distributing civilization around—but Irkoutska also, at the distance of *three thousand seven hundred and seventy-four* miles from Moscow, and not *four hundred* from the frontier of China, has become the seat of a considerable and flourishing government.

" Communications are open in all directions, even to Kamtschadska and the fort of St. Peter and St. Paul, at the distance, (by Okotsk, in the Pacific), of *eight thousand seven hundred and thirty* miles from Moscow.*

" Reports are regularly received from every government, and arrive generally at the prescribed day, and from most of them at the same hour.

" In no country in the world is *travelling* so cheap, or so secure against robbers; and within the last half dozen years, large inns have been erecting, under the order of the Emperor, at all the principal European post stations.

" *Manufactories* of all descriptions have been established, and particularly in *iron*, which is worked with a delicacy that rivals the artists of any country.

" Carriages, which heretofore were imported from England, are now made under the original instruction of German and English builders, with such good and cheap materials as to render the prohibition of importation a matter of no regret.

" *Cloth* manufactories are receiving great encouragement from the government, and the late events on the continent have added largely to the *manufacturing* and *mechanic* population.

" The ports of Cronstadt, of Riga, and Revel, have not only been opened again to the trade with all Europe, but America is becoming a competitor of such importance as to render Russia no longer dependent on the English market: and thus the preference promised the English merchants by Peter the Great, when he addressed William the Third in Holland, in the year 1697, and the privileges subsequently granted, have been cancelled, or rather not renewed, on an alleged principle of general justice.

" At the same time, the doctrines inculcated by La Harpe have not been neglected in *Russia*. *Slavery* has not only been divested of many of its most disgusting features; but great progress has been made towards its abolition by the regulations as well as the example of the Emperor.

" The nobles of Esthonia have lately declared, that, at the expiration of a few years, necessary for intermediate arrangements, useful to the peasant as well as to the proprietor, slavery shall no longer exist in their

* It must not be forgotten, that the communications are greatly facilitated by the sledge conveyance. Merchandise can be transported on sledges in one winter, which would require two summers water carriage. The journey from Okotsk is performed in less than three months.

province; and there is every reason to expect a more general extention of this policy will not be long protracted.

" A disposition, manifested by the Emperor, to introduce preliminary measures for the establishment of a *constitutional* government, was rejected by the senate, who declared for the maintenance of an *autocrasy*. But if the *senate* at that time had been as liberally disposed as the *sovereign*, the frame of a representative government might have been formed to keep pace with the progress of education.

" While such are the characteristics of internal improvement, the indications of external greatness, in her foreign relations, are no less unequivocal.

" It has been said already, when Alexander came to the throne *thirty-six millions* of people acknowledged his authority; but at this day, by increase and acquisition, there cannot be less than *forty-two millions* at the LOWEST calculation; and not of Asiatic houseless hordes, wandering in deserts, but chiefly of Europeans, situated in territories, whose military and political value to Russia does not merely consist in an augmentation of her revenue and her number of souls, but, as will be shown hereafter, in CONTRACTING her line of defence, and at the same time affording her powers of advance to positions, that must, if properly occupied, secure the *command* of Europe and of Asia!"

It is not in the number, but in the loyalty and affection of her subjects, that the strength of Russia consists. She has succeeded in conciliating the attachment of so many millions of people, of different laws, languages, and religions, by leaving to all the enjoyment of the faith, habits, and privileges to which they were born. She has adapted herself to their prejudices, instead of attempting to subdue them.

" It was this system of legislation and connexion which preserved the Fins, the Lithuanians, the Courlanders, the Podolians, the Wolhynians, the Sarmates, and the Tartars in general, in their allegiance, and animated the Cossacks of the Don and the Wolga, with enthusiastic zeal in the service of a power against whose dominion they had so long contended."

The same system of policy has been adopted towards Poland. She is permitted to bear the name of a kingdom; she has her own laws, her own language, her own troops, and her own revenue, which is applied exclusively to her own use.

" Now let the reader consider the station taken by Russia; her immense acquisitions, the bold line of her frontiers, and her domineering influence over the whole world.

" The importance, however, of these acquisitions cannot be here fully manifested: the map and the intelligence of the observer must supply many inevitable omissions. The object is to show, not what *may* be, but *what is;* and with that design, to exhibit the profiles, the points, the pinnacles of the vantage-ground on which *Russia* now proudly *reclines;* for who can talk of the *repose* of ambition?

" In the year 1800 Russia rested her right flank on the *North* Sea; her frontier line, traversing Russian Lapland, ran *fifty* miles in advance of the White Sea: then covering the province of Olonetz, approached the Lake Ladoga within *twenty* miles, and fell upon the Gulf of Finland, at the distance of only *one hundred and fifteen* miles in a direct line from Petersburgh; so that Sweden not only *commanded* near two-thirds of the northern coast of the Gulf of Finland, but ranged herself *in view* of, and at the distance of not more than *thirty* miles from the port of Revel, situated in the province of Livonia, wrested from her by Peter the Great, and which she might always hope to re-occupy, so long as she preserved such contiguity.

" The frontier of Russia, opposed to the frontier line of *Prussia*, commenced near Memel; and reaching the Niemen, between Tilsitz and Kovno, continued along that river as far as Grodno, when it ran in a southern direction upon the Bug river between Drogutchin and Brestlitov; then descending to Wlodowa, on the frontier of *Austrian Gallicia*, continued along that province until it reached the Dniester, near CHOTIN, when it followed the course of that river into the *Black Sea*.

" On the side of ASIA, the frontier was separated from the TURKISH possessions by the *Cuban*, a small river, which flows at a little distance from the very narrow strait which divides the *Crimea* from the continent of *Asia*, and connects the Sea of *Azoe* with the *Black Sea*. It then continued along that river to its source, and passing in front of *Georgiesk*, and behind or to the northward of the mountains of *Caucasus*, joined the river *Terek*, and followed its course into the *Caspian*.

" In the year 1817, the right of the frontier still rests on the *Northern Ocean*, but, advancing *a hundred and sixty* miles, touches the frontier of NORWAY, and bends round it for *a hundred and ninety* miles, until it reaches a line drawn due north from the *Torneo*, when it descends on that river, and continues running parallel until it falls into the Gulf of *Bothnia*, intersecting a country through which the Swedish troops always passed into *Finland*, but where, from the severity of the climate and the poverty of the soil, none can move without previous arrangements.

" The difficulty, indeed, of the communication contributed to the loss of the *Swedish* provinces; since Sweden could not sustain with a population of little more than *two* millions of people, and a revenue of not much more than *one* million, the heavy expenditure of men and money*. These dif-

* Before the separation of Finland, the revenue did

ficulties, however, will be less felt by Russia, since the command of the Gulfs of Finland and of Bothnia would facilitate the operations.

" A line is then drawn through the Gulf of Bothnia, which sweeping round Aland, regains the continent in the province of Livonia, thus giving to Russia the ports of *Abo* and of *Sweaborg*, which was the great naval establishment of the Swedes on the coast of Finland, and all the numerous islands which cluster between Aland and the main land, and which are inhabited by a rich and happy population. But the island of Aland is distant from the shore of Sweden only *twenty-four* miles, from the Archipelago of islands in advance of Stockholm not above *thirty*, and not above *seventy* from Stockholm itself; while the intervening sea is frequently frozen, so that carriages may pass.

" Thus Russia has completely CHANGED her relative POSITION with Sweden. Instead of her former vulnerable and humiliating defensive attitude, she not only menaces but awes; and not only awes; but, from a variety of contingent circumstances, all favourable to her authority, she *commands*.

" On the *Niemen*, the frontier remains *in statu quo* for about *one hundred* miles; when it traverses the Memel or Niemen river, and running along East Prussia, strikes the Vistula near Thorn, from whence Dantzic is distant about *seventy miles*, and BERLIN only *one hundred and seventy*.

" The line then crosses the *Vistula*, and advances to Kalish, a point nearly equidistant from Dresden and Berlin; thence taking a southern direction, and passing within *thirty* miles of the Oder, it bends in an eastern course along the district of Cracow, which it respects; but at this point its distance from a third capital, *Vienna*, is again only *one hundred and seventy* miles; the *Gallician* frontier is then rounded, when the line traverses the *Dniester*, allongates the *Bukovine* frontier*, until it reaches the river *Pruth*; thus circumventing all *that part of Poland* except the *Duchy* of *Posen*, which belonged to *Prussia* by the partition-treaties.

" In this position, which may be called the very heart of Europe, she rides alongside the *Brandenburgh* possessions with the lofty and fearful superiority of one of her *hundred and twenty* gun ships over a Prussian galliot, when there is no escape from pressure, and when the weaker must be crushed or overwhelmed.

" Notwithstanding the possession of the fortresses of Dantzic, Graudents, and Colberg, Prussia can never attempt to defend any territory *north* of the Oder; and her line of fortresses on that river is now the only rampart of Germany, a rampart too of no value if there are not supporting armies in the field equal, or nearly so, to the attacking force, and especially in the arm of cavalry; which is almost impossible; since Russia, without any extraordinary exertion, could bring *one hundred and twenty thousand* (regular and irregular) cavalry into action on the *Prussian* frontier.

" It is no wonder, then, that *Prussia* interweaves the *myrtle* with the *olive*, that she may preserve the ground for the laurels she has won! Had she a hundred daughters, and Russia as many sons, she would willingly unite them all.

" On the side of the frontier, from Cracow to the Pruth, the kingdom of *Poland* reposes on a friendly population, and not merely friendly, but one in which the *white* eagle is building, as it were, a native aerie: a territory which, in time of peace, occasions jealousy to the present possessor; and which, if the disaffection of the people were less unequivocal, could not be defended in time of war; notwithstanding, political considerations render *Sclavonian* contact with the *Carpathian* mountains perilous to the *Austrian* monarchy.

" The *Russian* frontier having reached the *Pruth*, continues along that river (so disastrous in her history) to its confluence with the Danube: when this great artery of Austria, and main support of the Turkish frontier, rolls its streams, now also tributary to the flag of Russia, into the waters of the Black Sea.

" In this position Russia is distant only *one hundred* miles from Transylvania, about *two hundred and fifty* from *Constantinople* by water, and *three hundred* by land, in a direct line; whilst the two interjacent provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia are in fact regulated by her policy, though the Ottoman Porte retains the *nominal* sovereignty.

"*Russia* had endeavoured to obtain the line of the *Sereth*, when she found that Austria was not willing that she should occupy the whole of the provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia, and throw her frontier upon *Illyria* and the higher *Danube*; a boundary-line which, in fact, would have uncovered not only Illyria, but the Banat, Transylvania, and Hungary; and brought her within a little more than *two hundred* miles of *Constantinople*.

" It may be said, however that Persia would march to the aid of the *Mussulmans*, although the *religious* quarrel between these nations renders them deadly enemies when Christians do not menace the overthrow of both; but *Persia* by the late treaty, made under the AUSPICES OF ENGLAND, *is herself prostrate* at the *feet of Russia*.*

"*Russia* has descended from the mountains! She is no longer struggling against the hostility of *nature* and *barbarians* in the regions of the Caucasus; she has advanced into the plain, and sweeping with her frontier round Georgia, absorbing the *Persian* provinces of Daughistan and Shirvan, so as to consoli-

not exceed *one* million and a *half*, and the debt was considerable. The whole military force amounted to about *fifty thousand* men.

* The Bukovine is a small district lying between Transylvania and Moldavia, and which has belonged to both these provinces: it contains about *one hundred and thirty thousand* inhabitants, now under the Austria government.

* The British ambassador obtained the best terms he could; but his inability to procure better, corroborates the assertion of the text, with respect to the present helpless situation of Persia.

date and cement all her possessions, she has raised a pillar of her empire at the mouth of the river *Kur;* and to complete her triumph, to remove all rivals, and monopolize commerce, she has stipulated that her flag, and her flag *alone*, shall sweep the *Caspian*.

"Thus Persia is humbled to the dust, and her court to eastern dependence and bondage. It is true, that Persia, unfettered by Turkish prejudices, has long solicited, and has at length obtained, the instruction of *Europeans*, of *French* officers, officers of the army of Napoleon *proscribed* by Louis; and it is not probable that they have carried with them feelings of ill will to *Russia* so strong as those towards *England*; that they would rather storm the frozen *Caucasus* than join in an expedition to share the spoil of Asia, and avenge in the East their humiliations in Europe.

"To reach *Tchiran*, the capital of the Shah, the columns have to march only *three hundred* miles; and by the navigation of the Caspian they can be disembarked within *one hundred!* Thus an army might sail from the *Baltic* through an internal navigation from Petersburgh to Astracan, and landing on the southern shore of the Caspian, pitch their tents within *four hundred* miles of the Persian Gulf; from whence the voyage to *Bombay* is only from *twenty-four* to *thirty* days, in both Monsoons; and to Madras, but *eight* or *ten* days longer in the S. W. Monsoon.*

"This, then, is the territorial attitude of *Russia*. But can any power sustain a force sufficient to garrison a frontier, whose *points d'appui* are the Northern Ocean and the Caspian, as well as the frontiers of China and Armenia; on whose line *Swedes*, *Austrians*, *Turks*, and *Persians*, are arrayed with feelings and interests at war with the power that would enslave them?

"Can *Russia*, who in the year 1799 had a disposable army of only *fifty thousand men;* in the year 1807, not more than *eighty thousand* to defend both capitals; and in the year 1813, only *three hundred thousand*† on her *whole* territory, after several years preparation; can she, notwithstanding a destructive invasion and wars of such great waste and expenditure, have collected and re-equipped armies sufficient to defend her acquisitions and improve her advantages? The answer is, She can; and Europe and Asia must acknowledge the truth of that assertion; for, both quarters of the globe are overshadowed by the mass of *six hundred and forty thousand* men, which an establishment of *one million two hundred thousand* ranges in order of battle, exclusive of *militia*, Tartar cavalry, &c.

"The fact is, that *Russia*, after posting *thirty thousand* men of appropriate force, with artillery, &c. in Finland, *eighty thousand* on the frontier of Gallicia, *sixty thousand* in Moldavia, *thirty thousand* on the frontier of Armenia, as many in Persia, and leaving a reserve of *one hundred thousand* men to sustain these armies, possesses still a disposable force of above *two hundred thousand* infantry, *eighty thousand* cavalry, and *one thousand two hundred* guns better horsed for service than any artillery or cavalry in the world;—an army, than which, there is none more brave, and with which *no other* can march, starve, or suffer physical privations and natural inclemencies. She has moreover a population equal to the needed supply, and to a great portion of whom the habits and sufferings of war are familiar; while no power in Europe can raise, equip or maintain their forces, with such disdain of the price of blood."

"Such," exclaims our author, "is Russia; such has been her gigantic growth within a short century." After this parade of her power, he undertakes to delineate the policy which she will probably pursue.

"Alexander now wields the huge sceptre of Russia, and displays an ability equal to the task. His philosophical views have indeed been enfeebled by pernicious advisers; but those who have known him in other days, still cling to the hope that he will not substitute an unfeeling policy, of which the pillars are *tyranny*, *ignorance*, and *fanaticism*, for the sentiments of that genuine philanthropy which must still have possession of his heart, though they do not animate his councils.

"If, indeed, Alexander had resisted the enemies of liberty and human happiness—if he had persevered in the wish he once professed, to see governments and nations so constituted, that sovereigns should be only the *executive* representatives of *represented* states, whose action depended not on the *character* of the individual chief, but on *general, fixed, and self operating principles;* he would have added to his glory, the more illustrious and imperishable title of the "Benefactor to Mankind."

"Now he appears only in the character (and his enemies triumph in the result) of a conqueror, who engages the consideration of the universe by the immensity of his power to do real mischief and problematical good.

"How he will employ the vast force at his disposition is certainly a most interesting question. Whether he will take the line of the Vistula or even Oder for himself: push Prussia into Holland; instigate France to imitate England, and complete and terminate her revolution by the election of a sovereign from the family of Nassau; or whether he will enter into negotiations with Austria for a new arrangement of Europe,

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* Nearchus, the captain of Alexander the Great's fleet, from ignorance of the compass, being obliged to hug the coast, was still only *sixty-one* days actually in his voyage from the Indus.

† *Peter the Great* is said to have had *one hundred thousand* men at *Narva;* but they were troops of that description which present themselves under the image of sheep, whose numbers never concern the wolves, and which *eight thousand Swedes*, being disciplined, conquered.

which may restore the balance; are speculations which have excited the hopes and fears of many. Whether he will profit by the positions and present superiority of *Russia*, to accomplish other projects long assigned to her system of policy, must interest all governments, not excepting the *government of the East Indies;* whose attention may also be more excited by the information that *General Yermoloff*, the governor of the *Caucasus* line, who probably at this very moment has reached the *capital of* PERSIA on an embassy, is an officer of the highest merit, and capacity as an administrator as well as a soldier; and that he has gone, assisted not only by the *French* officers employed by Napoleon, under Gardanne, in Persia, and whom Alexander, with the exception of three, engaged in the Russian service, but with the Reports and maps sent by that mission to Napoleon, and which being carried into Russia at the time of the invasion, were found during the retreat, in two abandoned tumbrils.

"These reports and plans had convinced *Napoleon*, that the expedition to *India* was practicable; and it is a *positive fact*, that he had resolved on sending an united *Russian* and *French* force on that expedition, in case Russia had been compelled to make peace on his terms.

"There are two additional circumstances most important to influence opinion, if they cannot fix the judgment, as to the further proposed extension of the *Russian* power.

"*Alexander* has already a much larger army than his *defensive* line requires, or his *finances* can justify; and yet he continues to increase his force.

"*Russia*, with a line of coast upon two seas, on which there is not navigation above half the year, and in one of them, the *Baltic*, no competitor, not content with an establishment of above *eighty* sail of the line in the ports of *Archangel, Cronstadt, Revel, Sevastopol, Cherson;* notwithstanding the pressure of the *French* war, has been incessantly building, and is building with increasing activity, the heaviest line of battle ships.

"*Alexander* knows as well as any *British* admiral, that ships of any force, or of any amount, are of no value without *seamen* to navigate them; and that *seamen* cannot be formed on inland seas alone. He also knows and feels as well as any economist in *Europe*, that ships are costly vanities, if built only for ostentation. There is no sovereign who would have been less inclined to divert his treasure from state necessities, for the indulgence of this unprofitable pursuit, than *Alexander*.

"There is, therefore, evidence amounting to conviction, that he has always proposed to accomplish the instructions of *Peter the Great*, and extend his empire until he can establish that real maritime power which himself and people have coveted more since they have seen so much commercial wealth; or, as they term it, *colonial* gold, flow into their country. *Putant enim, qui mari potitur, eum rerum potiri.*

"It is not likely that he will be satisfied with a *Dutch permit;* but whether he will seek to establish himself in the ports of Norway, in Zealand, in the Archipelago, in the Mediterranean; or whether, like the son of *Jupiter Ammon* on the banks of the *Hyphasis*, he will say, 'Our empire shall have no other bounds than those which God has sent to the earth'—time will show."

In speaking of *America* as interested in counteracting Russian aggrandizement, our author introduces the following note.

"It may, however, interest the reader to know that the establishments of the Russians commence at Okotsh, on the Siberian coast, in a bay of the Pacific Ocean, that they extend from thence by Kamschadka to the north-west coast of America, where the principal establishments have been long fixed in the populous island of Kodia (inhabited by hunters, and situated in 57 1-2 degrees north, and 152 1-2 west longitude from Greenwich,) and in Norfolk Sound, 57 degrees north, and 135 west longitude; where the fort is so considerable as to be armed with 100 pieces of cannon. Since the year 1813, however, the Russians have descended the American coast, *passed the Columbia river five hundred* miles, and settled in Badoga, at 38 1-2 north, and only *thirty* miles from *the Spanish establishments in California;* where they not only are trading with great advantage, but are profiting by a fine climate and fruitful soil, to feed their more northern possessions. The passage from the north-west coast of America to the Persian Gulf may be averaged between three and four months; but a ship leaving Bussorah in April to profit by the S. W. Monsoon, would easily gain the N. W. coast of America in *three* months."

Our author proceeds to estimate the force which the rest of Europe could array to oppose the designs which he ascribes to Russia. France he puts out of the calculation, considering a French army more formidable to the present dynasty of that country, than to any foreign nation. Austria, in his view, from the heterogeneous composition of her empire, and from her unconciliating deportment towards the people subject to her rule, is incapable of wielding the weapons in her hands; the subjects of Prussia are equally uncemented by community of interest, less numerous, and less compact; Turkey is bed-ridden—and England on her last legs!

Such is the cheerless survey presented by the author of this Sketch. We do not partake of all his despondency. The hopes of the advancement of the happiness of the world by the diffusion of political wisdom and an increased regard to political justice, do not appear to us so

absolutely desperate. We estimate not, indeed, much more highly the integrity, or the sagacity of the state-managers at the Congress of Vienna, than our author seems to do, but we cannot think that the crisis he forebodes, is very near. We can hardly believe that the peace-society and bible-society patronizing Alexander will immediately be induced, even by the corrupting possession of power, to break through the limits which he has assigned himself; though the accumulation of strength in his passive hands may offer to a less pious successor a strong temptation to abuse it. In fact if the growth of Russia for the next century shall keep pace with her progress in the last—and every thing prognosticates it—she will be beyond dispute the arbitress of the destinies of Europe. Her growing population yet bears no proportion to her capabilities of affording sustenance, and though the ratio of increase cannot be expected to hold till the maximum of numbers is attained, the judicious measures of Alexander have opened avenues to enterprise, and given a security to property, have produced a spring and provided a scope of action, the beneficial effects of which will be felt without diminution for an indifinite period, and which must result in the generation of a mass of power capable of overwhelming every pretension of rivalry. To have allowed such an empire to gain a foothold in Germany, and an ingress into the capitals of half the sovereigns of the continent, was, in the Allies, whilst they had other resources than remonstrance, an act of consummate folly.

We have devoted a larger space to this work than its merits claimed—from the attention it has excited in England, and the expectation which has been awakened to it in this country—though it is just to allow that it contains much valuable information, whilst the boldness of its positions and speculations may lead to useful reflection. We cannot but again express our surprise that Sir Robert Wilson, the virulent accuser of Buonaparte, the champion of the crusades against him, the apologist of the original partition of Poland, should have undergone so complete a revolution of sentiment upon every subject as this book evinces. He might have retracted his calumnies, if he were convinced he had uttered any, without becoming an eulogist of Napoleon—and surely his vehemence in advocating what he is now satisfied was wrong, should have taught him temperance in the expression of opinions which he is still liable to change. The invectives of the author of the Sketch against the government, and his aspersions of the character of his own country, however well founded, come with an ill grace from him, and discover a temper which takes away all weight from his indirect compliments to us. We will conclude our review with an extract from his peroration, in which, to aggravate the distress he has portrayed, he holds up America, as the rival from whose enterprise and enmity England has most to dread.

"England already has lost the world's homage; no longer is she esteemed "the friend of the oppressed;" her promises have become a scoff and a by-word: she has alienated the good-will even of those she assisted in their usurpations; and where her cause once engaged thousands of voluntary champions, not one apologist is now to be found.

"There is not an Englishman on the Continent who has not been the object of insult, if not of execration.

"England, by her money, enabled Europe to combine and march against France; her assistance is acknowledged, but not with gratitude; such a sentiment would not have been excited if her assistance had been considered as disinterested; for, as Tacitus justly says, *Beneficia eo usque læta sunt dum videntur exsolvi posse, at ubi multum antevenere, pro gratia odium redditur;* but, on the contrary, her benefits are supposed to have originated from motives of mere self-interest, and, as such, to be destitute of all claim on European gratitude. Various powers feel that England also attaches herself to rival governments, not to preserve what she calls the balance of power, but to control the continental policy, and continue an exclusion from what they claim as a due share of maratime advantages.

"Hence that jealousy of any returning prosperity to England, since that prosperity would afford stronger means to enforce these obnoxious checks; hence the desire to deprive England of the presumed sources of her wealth: hence the pleasure felt at the augmentation of the naval power of America, (for, although America might not be able for years to do what one of her Presidents once said she would do, 'draw a line of demarcation with her fleets beyond which no European flag should be seen without a passport;' still it is well known, that every single ship of the line built by America, requires, in case of war, a counteracting expenditure on the part of England, equal to the maintenance of *three* sail: that as the American marine increases, the English West India islands will require more garrisons, and the communications with India become more precarious;) and hence, perhaps these negotiations which have been carrying on from the quarter deck of the Washington in the Mediterranean, as well as the preference lately shown to the American

flag in the Baltic Envy is not blind, and revenge never sleeps.

"The utterance of these truths may offend, but silence would injure: the hearing of them is painful, but will be of use; therefore, as the philosopher said to his angry master, 'Strike, but hear.'

"If England is true to herself, she may yet avoid shipwreck; but if she looks to preservation by connexion with France *in her present state*, and continental operations, involving her in war with Russia, which prudence might avoid without diminution of her power, or prejudice to her interests; her guns of distress will soon be heard along her possessions in every quarter of the globe."

We must say a word on the style of the publication of this work. A political essay, which would not occupy the half of one of our monthly numbers, hardly deserved to be swelled out into an *octavo* volume of more than two hundred pages, and could not by any art of typography be rendered *worth* ONE DOLLAR and FIFTY CENTS. E.

ART. 6. MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES.

By C. S. RAFINESQUE, ESQ.

15. *Introduction to the* ICHTHYOLOGY *of the United States.*

THE Natural History of Fishes bears the name of Ichthyology; that science had long been neglected in our country, but it has lately been studied with assiduity and success, and the knowledge of the useful inhabitants of our shores, rivers, and lakes, begins to be cultivated with zeal. Whoever has attended to that branch of Zoology has been rewarded by continual discoveries since the field was entirely new in North-America: those lately made by Mitchill, Lesueur, and myself, exceed our anticipation; but nevertheless we have not exhausted that immense field, and it is perhaps scarcely glanced upon. It is my intention previous to stating my own discoveries, to give an idea of the labours of former authors in that branch of science.

Catesby was probably one of the first naturalists that began to illustrate our Fishes: in his natural history of Carolina, &c. he has figured and described many fishes of the southern States, most of which have since been introduced in the *Systema natura* by appropriate names; but some of them are yet unnoticed in the works on Ichthyology, or considered as varieties. Linneus has likewise introduced in his *Systema natura*, some species communicated by Garden and Kalm, and Gmelin those described by Forster.

In the general natural histories of Fishes by Bloch, Castel, Schneider, Lacepede, Sonnini, and Shaw, published within a few years of each other, very few North-American fishes are introduced, except those already mentioned by Linneus and Gmelin: a few additions of new species are however to be met, described upon specimens in the European collections, and Lacepede has some species observed by Bosc. In the zoological Dictionary of Ray, in the ichthyological Dictionary of the French Cyclopedia, scarcely any are added; but some new species from Carolina are described by Bosc in the great Dictionary of natural history published in Paris in 1804.

Those general writers have not noticed many fishes, partly described by travellers, such as Carver, Bartram, Mackenzie, Castiglione, &c. probably because they were not known to them; this must be attended to by the general writers on North-American ichthyology. In the travels of Castiglione in the United States, published in Italian towards 1790, some new fishes are described in Latin. Many new fishes are also mentioned and partly described in the late travels of Lewis and Clarke to the sources of the Missouri and the Pacific Ocean.

Some few species have been figured in the transactions of the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia by Latrobe; and in those of the Academy of Sciences of Boston by Peck.

Some observations on North-American fishes are scattered through the works of Dr. Mease, Dr. Mitchill's Medical Repository, &c. other observations by Descourtils, Forster, Gilpin, Clinton, Dunbar, Robin, Shultz, &c. may be seen in their travels or tracts.

Many new species have been observed by Dr. Benjamin Barton, Dr. Waterhouse, jun. Dr. Akerly, Dr. Samuel Mott, Messrs. Lecoute, Say, &c. but they have not published them. The great Ornithologist, Wilson, had also observed some American fishes, and some of his observations are published in the American edition of Ree's Cyclopedia.

A German naturalist (perhaps Schoepf or Schneider) has described some new species from North-America, but I have never met with his work.

The descriptions of the fishes of New-York, by Dr. Mitchill, published in 1815, in the first volume of the transactions of the literary and philosophical Society of New-York, must be considered as a standard work on American ichthyology. This work, with the supplement which shall be inserted in the second volume of said transactions, will contain nearly two hundred species, one half of which are probably new. Although defective in many respects, by a want of sinonymy, ignorance of new genera, wrong reunion of species, and imperfect descriptions of many, yet the good descriptions of several, the observations on their natural history, and the mass of new facts and species, contribute to render it a classical labour.

Mr. Lesueur, well known as the companion of Peron, &c. in his travels to Australia, is now in the United States; he visited last year, in company with Mr. Maclure the lakes

Erie, Ontario, Champlain, Saratoga, &c. the Chesapeak, the Alleghany, and the Atlantic shores of New-England, New-Jersey, &c. His discoveries have been ample, amounting to about sixty new species, different from those of Dr. Mitchill. He has begun to publish some of them in the Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and he has established a new genus *Catostomus*, which I had likewise established, but not yet published He will probaby give us gradually all his new species in said Journal, or in another work which he contemplates.

My own labours in that branch of natural science began in 1802 '3 and '4, when I observed many new species in the Delaware, Susquehannah, Chesapeak, &c. and in the Atlantic Ocean, some of which have since been described by Dr. Mitchill. The first species which I described was the *Echeneis caudisetis*, of which I sent the description and figure to the Linnean Society of London in 1811. In a pamphlet which I published in 1814 in French (Précis des Découvertes Somiologiques) I described five other new species of Atlantic or North American Fishes Sp. 27 to 31. *Centropomus albus, C. luteus, Sparus mocasinus, Balistes fuscata, Chironectes variegata.* In 1815 '16 and '17, I have discovered in the Atlantic Ocean, near Philadelphia, on the shores of Long-Island, in the Lakes Champlain, Saratoga, &c. in the Hudson, Fishkill, &c. about fifty new species omitted by Dr. Mitchill, and different (except very few) from those observed by Mr. Lesueur; several of which must form new genera. In this instance I must observe that little attention has been paid by Dr. Mitchill, &c. to the improvements on the genera of Fishes proposed by Bloch, Lacepede, Dumeril, and myself; unless those improvements in generic denominations and classifications are adopted, American Ichthiology cannot reach the perfection of European Ichthiology.

Some other new species have been communicated to me by Gov. Clinton, Dr. Mease, Dr. Mott, &c. which I mean to publish with mine. Last year I presented to the Literary and Philosophical Society of New-York a Memoir on the genus Sturgeon, *(Accipenser,)* and particularly the American Sturgeons, of which I have been able to describe or notice as many as fifteen species, all new except one previously described by Dr. Mitchill.

When all the discoveries of Mr. Lesueur and the supplements of Dr. Mitchill will be published, the number of North-American Fishes, known and described, will probably exceed three hundred and fifty species, while scarcely one hundred were mentioned by Linneus, of which a list was made by Forster in his Catalogue of the Animals of North-America; such a rapid increase in our knowledge of those beings, shows how slightly they had been studied: many species had even been considered as consimilar to European species, which a more accute survey has proved to be different, and very few (if any) are common to both continents.

This large accession of species will not appear extraordinary to those acquainted with the treasures of nature, and who know that accurate observations and zealous exertions will almost any where be equally rewarded. If in the Island of Sicily, which is only seven hundred miles in circumference, and is situated among the countries most anciently known, I have been enabled to discover and add over two hundred and twenty new species to its ichthyology, it is reasonable to conclude that the Continent of North-America, exclusive of the Mexican Empire and the West-Indies, will afford at least six hundred and sixty such new species, of which about two hundred and fifty have lately been detected; but as many or more are waiting to reward the researches and labours of future observers. The fishes of Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Louisiana, Florida, &c. those of the lakes Huron, Michigan, Superior, Winiping, &c. of the rivers Mississippi, Mobile, Missouri, Arkanzas, Columbia, &c. and those of the North-West Coast of America, are scarcely known, or totally unknown. When those parts shall have been explored, and all the former discoveries embodied methodically, we may then hope to be enabled to frame a North-American Ichthyology somewhat accurate, if not complete.

That period is perhaps less distant than we are aware of; able observers will soon spread themselves over those regions, and many travellers will contribute their mite. I will also offer mine, and if every year rewards my exertions, as successfully as the two last, I may hope to add gradual and yearly discoveries to those already made.

16. *Descriptions of two new genera of North-American Fishes*, OPSANUS and NOTROPIS.

I. N. G. OPSANUS. Holobranchial Jugular. Body oblong thick attenuated behind, without scales, abdomen convex, no lateral line. Head large, broad, depressed above; eyes approximated on the top, separated by a furrow, and with an appendage behind: mouth large, lips thick, without barbs, lower jaw the longest, two rows of obtuse teeth to each jaw: Gill-cover large, soft, spinescent above, branchial membrane with nine rays. All the fins with soft rays covered by a thick skin, two dorsal fins, the second very long, the first short, and with few hard thick obtuse rays, anal short, vent nearer to the tail than to the head.

Observations. A very remarkable, and totally new genus of Atlantic fish, which has some analogy with the genera *Trachinus, Uranoscopus, Corystion, Phycis, Batrictius*, &c. It differs however from *Trachinus* by the situation of the eyes and their appendages, short anal fin, backward vent, &c, from the genus *Uranoscopus* by the spinescent gill-cover, which is not ciliated, characters of the vent and anal fin; from *Corystion* by two dorsal fins, the anal fin, &c. From *Phycis* by the gill-cover, head, eyes, fins, &c. and from *Batrictius* by the double dorsal fin, want of barbs, &c. It will belong to the first natura order of fishes *Deripia* or the Jugulars, the

second natural family *Gadinia*, and the second natural sub-family *Trachinia*, see my Analysis of Nature. The name means *looking up*, and the following species will form the type of this new genus.

OPSANUS CERAPALUS. Appendage of each, eyes short, soft, and obtuse, gill-cover with an obtuse spine and a tubercle under it; body and head variegated of small, brown, flexuous lines, and irregular spots on an yellowish ground; top of the head and cheeks brown, belly white: first dorsal fin with three rays, the second with four diagonal brown stripes, the anal fin with three similar stripes; tail oval obtuse yellow, with three vertical brown stripes, jugular fins triangular acute with two rays.

History. The specific name of this fish means *Soft-horn*, the appendages behind the eyes having very much that appearance. I have detected this new fish in August, 1817, on the south shore of Long-Island: it lives in the sandy and shallow bottoms of the surrounding sea, and is sometimes taken along with other fishes in the nets and seines; but it is by no means a common fish; the fishermen scarcely know it, they call it by the name of *Yellow-Kusk*, *Sand-Codling*, *Slimer*, &c. which shows that they confound it with other species: they dont reckon it good to eat, and often throw it away on the beach, yet it is as good as the different species of *Phycis* or Kusk. It frequents the shores in summer to deposit the spawn, and is not seen in winter. Its length is about one foot, it is covered all over with a gelatinous slime, which renders it difficult to hold: the head is remarkable large, broader than the body, with swelled cheeks, the eyes are large, brown, and projecting, the curious appendages project directly behind them, they are brown, about one third of an inch long, and nearly cylindrical, the animal can move them and swell them; after death they are dejected and flaccid. The general colour of the fish is yellowish, but the fins are paler, and the belly quite white, without spots, while the remainder of the body is curiously interwoven with small vermicular lines and scattered spots. There is no appearance of lateral line nor scales. The jugular fins are white acute, situated under the gill cover or operculum. The pectoral fins are large rounded, spotted like the body, and with twenty rays. The first dorsal fin has three thick hard rays, the first of which is the shortest, and the second the longest; the second dorsal fin has thirty equal rays, the anal fin only eighteen. The tail has a slender base, and is quite ovate obtuse, the three stripes are a little bowed, with the convexity behind. It is worthy of attention that the bones of this fish are quite cartilagineous and soft, more so than those of many Sharks, Skates, &c. yet the gills are quite complete, furnished with a gill cover, and branchial rays! This fact affords another instance of the assertion I have made long ago, that the distinction of hard-boned and soft-boned fishes, is illusive and useless, since all the natural orders of fishes afford animals with either sorts of bones, and there is a graduation in the whole class from quite hard bones to nearly gelatinous bones!

II. N G NOTROPIS. Holobranchial abdominal. Body elongated compressed, back carinated nearly strait, belly not carinated, scarcely bowed, a lateral line and a longitudinal silver band; vent nearer the tail than the head. Head oval compressed, convex above, mouth diagonal large, jaws without teeth, the lower longer and mobil, the upper extensible: eyes very large: gill cover large, smooth valviform, three branchial rays. One dorsal fin opposed to the interval between the anal and abdominal fins, which have nine rays.

Observations. The generic name means *carinated or keeled back.* It forms a remarkable new genus, belonging to the third natural order *Gastripia* or the abdominals, the sixteenth natural family *Cyprinia*, and the second sub-family *Gymnoponia*, (see Analysis of Nature,) together with the genera *Cyprinus*, *Atherina*, *Hydrargyra*, &c. It differs from the first by the compressed body, carinated back, lateral band, large mouth, deep cleft gill-cover, &c. and from the two last genera by the three branchial rays, nine rays to the abdominal fins, want of teeth, &c

NOTROPIS ATHERINOIDES. Head silvery, brown above: body pale fulvous transparent, with a broad silver band; lateral line in the band: fins whitish, dorsal, and anal, with eleven rays, the first very short, tail slightly forked.

History. This new fish was discovered in Lake Erie by Gov. De Witt Clinton, who had the kindness to present me with many specimens; they are now deposited in the Lyceum of Natural History. I have ascertained that they belonged to a new genus, next to *Atherina*, and the specific name which I have adopted implies such an affinity. Those fishes come on the shores of Lake Erie, and even in the river of Niagara, in the spring, in great shoals; but they are so small that they are scarcely noticed, and escape through the common nets; their usual size being from one to two inches, and very thin and slender: they are called *Minny* or *Minnew*, together with twenty different other species of fish, and often considered as the young of other fishes. They live in the depth of the lake at other seasons, and are probably common all over the great lakes. Their eyes are exceedingly large, occupying nearly the whole foreside of the head, the lips are very thin and membranaceous, the nostrils large, the gill cover is nearly round, and split above to the eyes; they have small thin broad scales, the rays of the fins are scarcely articulated simple and brittle: the pectoral fins have about fifteen rays, and the caudal fin about twenty-four.

December 10th, 1817.

17. SECOND DECADE *of new North-American Fishes.*

11. Sp. *Perca mucronata.* Body nearly rhomboidal silvery, brownish on the back

jaws equal, gill cover angular, a broad flat spine before the angle: first dorsal fin with nine spiny rays, the second dorsal fin with eleven rays, whereof the first is spinescent, anal fin with twelve rays, whereof three spiny, second ray of the thoracic fin mucronate elongated, a flesh coloured spot at the base of the pectoral fins, tail forked.—Obs. This fish is vulgarly called *White Perch*, a name common to many species. It is not uncommon in Pennsylvania, in the Susquehannah, Delaware, and Schuylkill. Size from four to eight inches long. The upper part from the mouth to the first dorsal fin is sloping and straight, and the back part is similar. Head, flesh coloured, brownish above; gill cover scaly, the second plate serrate, a suture from the eyes to the upper part of the last plate, which is rounded with a membranaceous angular appendage. Scales denticulated. Thoracic fins white with six rays, one spiny; pectoral fins fulvous, with seventeen rays: other fins brownish

12. Sp. *Perca notata.* Body elongated pale olivaceous, with six narrow transverse brown stripes, and many scattered blackish dots, belly unspotted: lower jaw longer; gill cover angular, a broad flat spine before the angle: fins olivaceous, first dorsal fin with fourteen spiny rays, with a black spot before and behind, anal fin with ten rays; whereof two are spinescent, tail forked.—Obs. This species has been communicated to me by Gov. De Witt Clinton, who has found it in Lake Erie; it is vulgarly called *Yellow Perch*, or *Brindled Perch*, with many other species. Size from three to six inches; head dotted with black. Second dorsal fin with fourteen rays, pectoral fins fifteen, thoracic six, whereof one is spiny. Both this and the foregoing belong to the real genus *Perca*, having two dorsal fins and a serrate spinescent operculum: they agree besides in the following secondary characters, head wrinkled above, mouth with teeth, the upper jaw extensible, operculum scaly, with four plates, the second serrate, the third spinescent, the fourth with a membranaceous projecting angle, six branchial rays, lateral line following the back, first ray of the dorsal and anal fins short, &c.

13. Sp. *Petromyzon leucopterus.* Body gradually compressed, lead colour above, silvery beneath, swelled cheeks, large white mouth with yellow teeth in concentrical rows, unequal: gills in a diagonal curved row: dorsal fins white, the second opposed the vent, tail ovate lanceolate acute brown decurrent.—Obs. A curious fish differing from *P sanguisuga* of Europe which has a cylindrical body, orange teeth, gills in a straight row, second dorsal fin close to the tail, &c. Vulgar names *Small lamprey, Shad lamprey. River lamprey*, &c. I have observed it in April 1816, in Philadelphia, the first specimen being communicated by Dr. Mease. It is found in the Delaware, and torments in the spring the shads and herrings. Length from six to 12 inches. Eyes silvery, iris with three rings, the second silvery, the others bluish brown. Teeth of different forms, some bidentated or dentellated.

14. Sp. *Phycis marginatus.* Brown above, white beneath, fins brown, tail rounded marginated of black, lateral line descending in the middle, first dorsal fin triangular with ten rays, jugular fins with two long rays connected only at the base, reaching the anal fin.—Obs. My genus *Phycis* established in my Sicilian Ichthyology contains the species of the genera *Blennius*, which have two dorsal fins, jaws with teeth, the lower shorter and with an appendage or barb, the jugular fins with few rays partly unconnected, and without membrane, &c. Many American species of the *G. Gadus* Mitchill, belong also to it. This species is found in Long-Island sound, and on the shores of Rhode-Island; its vulgar name is *Kusk:* its flesh is not quite as good as that of the Cods. Length from one to two feet; the iris and barb is white: the second dorsal fin has about sixty rays, the anal fin about forty, the pectoral are oblong with twelve rays.

15. Sp. *Sparus erythrops.* Body oval brown shining, covered with large scales, belly yellow; iris purple red, teeth small acute, a transverse wrinkle over the nose: dorsal fin with five spiny rays, tail entire truncated.—Obs. This species has been communicated to me by Dr. Mease: it is found in the Chesapeak, the Susquehannah, and Elk river, it is sometimes brought to the Philadelphia market, where it is known by the vulgar names of *Oldwives*, or *Sunfish*. It comes next to the *Sp. argyrops* and *Sp. chrysops*. length about six inches. body rounded, very compressed, head small, operculum with an angular furrow; scales very large.

16. *Sp. Exocetus rubescens.* Mouth without barbs, pectoral fins reaching near to the tail, body elongated subquadrangular, entirely reddish; dorsal and anal fins opposed.—Obs. I have observed this species in 1815. in the Atlantic Ocean, south west of the bank of Newfoundland. It has the habit and manners of the other species: the *Coryphena hippuris* preys upon it: length about ten inches.

17. *Sp. Callionymus pelagicus.* First dorsal fin reaching the tail, gill cover spinescent, tail entire: body silvery, covered with reddish spots, fins spotted.—Obs. Observed in 1815 in the Atlantic Ocean, together with the foregoing: it flies also over the water, length only three inches, very handsome, body slender.

18. Sp. *Clupea Sapidissima.* Height of the body one-fourth of total length, head gilt, jaws equal, gill cover veined; back greenish brown, sides silvery and gilt, an irregular brown spot behind the gill cover, and a row of smaller spots under the scales; abdomen serrated, no lateral line; pectoral fin short; dorsal fin, with sixteen rays, and a brown spot upwards anteriorly; anal fin, with twenty rays.——Obs. This species is the *Clupea alosa* of Mitchill; it was first distinguished and named by Wilson, in the Ame-

rican edition of Ree's Cyclopedia, but not described! Its vulgar names are *Shad. Common Shad. Spring Shad.* &c. It has the manners of the European shad, living in winter in the ocean, and ascending the rivers in the spring to deposit its spawn: it frequents nearly all the rivers falling into the Atlantic Ocean Total length nearly two feet; very good to eat, better than the European shad. Its history, which is very interesting; (since it affords an exuberant fishery;) shall be undertaken in another place.

19. Sp. *Clupea megalops.* Height one-fourth of total length; body silvery; back scarcely brownish; snout, upper part of the head and a spot behind it, brown; lower jaw longer; abdomen serrated; gill cover gilt with some flexuous red lines, no lateral line, pectoral fins long; dorsal and anal fins with seventeen rays.—Obs. Vulgar name *Big-eye Herring*, common in the Delaware in the spring along with the *Cl. vernalis* (Cl. pseudo harengus of Wilson) of Mitchill, both very different from the *Cl. harengus*, or English herring. Length from ten to fifteen inches: eyes large blue, iris gilt. This species, with the foregoing and following, will be more particularly described in my Memoir on the American herrings.

20. Sp. *Clupea neglecta.* Height one-fifth of total length; lower jaw shorter; a red spot at the summit of the gill cover; body silvery, scarcely brownish above; back with many scattered round blue spots, no lateral line, abdomen not serrated, pectoral fin short: dorsal fin, with twenty rays, the first very short, anal fin with twenty rays.—Obs. A common species in the fall on the south shores of Long-Island, omitted by Dr. Mitchill. Length about a foot, indifferent food. Vulgar names *Fall Herring, Marsbankers*, in common with other species.

18. THIRD DECADE *of new Species of North-American Plants.*

While other botanists extend their labours in various shapes, I shall proceed to investigate and describe, in preference, new genera and new species, according to the synoptical manner of classical authors. Since it is high time that all our plants should be known and well named before we attempt to illustrate completely their history.

21. Sp. *Euphorbia vermiculata* Raf. Upright, nearly dichotomous, pilose: leaves opposite, shortly petiolated, oblong acute acuminate serrate trinerved, base oblique, thin, vermiculate—dotted: flowers solitary in the dichotomies peduncled upright, perianthe campanulated fourcleft, sepals ovate entire, capsuls smooth.—Obs. Found in August, 1816, near Sandyhill and Glen's Falls, State of New York, in fields. Small annual plant, flowers reddish: the vermicular transparent dots of the leaves are very remarkable.

22. Sp. *Malus microcarpa* Raf. Arborescent, petiols round and pubescent; leaves elliptical acuminate serrulate, base cordate, pubescent above, tomentose beneath: flowers racemose, pedicels biglandular: fruits globular, red.—Obs. A fine new tree, fifteen to twenty-five feet high, which grows on the banks of brooks, near Fishkill, Newburgh, Catskill, &c. It is a real wild apple tree since the five styles are united at the base, and the fruit not turbinate, that fruit is smaller than a cherry, entirely red when ripe, and very good to eat; it ripens in June and July, the flowers blossom in April and May. The branches and twigs are reddish brown, the upper part of the ovary is woolly, as well as the margin of the calyx, whose divisions are ovate acute reflexed.

23. *Neottia plantaginea* Raf. Very smooth, radical leaves ovate lanceolate acute carinate with seven nerves; scape vaginated: spike oblong, flowers three-sided spiral nodding, bracteas ovate acuminate obtuse, longer than the pubescent ovary: labellum canaliculated, broad at the top, reflexed obtuse crenate.—Obs. I found this species with Mr. Knevels, near Fishkill, in meadows, blossoming in June: the flowers are white, the labellum is yellowish towards the top; but the margin is white. Roots palmated, scape half a foot high.

24. *Neottia lacera* Raf. Smooth radical leaves oblong obtuse flat, scapes vaginated, sheaths acute: spike slender, flowers one sided spiral nodding, bracteas longer than the ovary, labellum canaliculated reflexed obtuse laciniated.—Obs. Detected in 1816, in the swampy woods, near Glen's Fall's, Lake George, and the Luzerne mountains, blossoming in July and August, flowers white, scape slender about one foot high, root palmated. Both species belong to the real genus *Neottia*, having the three upper petals or sepals of the perigone connected, the anthera posterior, &c. and they are very different from *N. tortilis*, and *N. cernua*.

25. *Spirea obovata* Raf. Under shrubby, smooth, branches flexuous angular; leaves short, petiolate abovate nearly acute, unequally serrate, base acute entire, corymbs racemose, racemes terminal paniculate, ovate, bracteolated, bracteoles linear, petals obovate crenate undulate, 5 ovaries.—Obs. A small shrub about a foot high, growing on the summit of the Highlands, among rocks; flowers white, blossoming in June, branches reddish, leaves green on both sides, thickly set.

26. *Prunus rupestris* Raf. Shrubby, branches glandular; petiols biglandular, leaves smooth ovate oblong acuminate, base acute, serrate, teeth cartilagineous, peduncles geminate or solitary elongated upright, fruits ovate oblong.—Obs. Found among rocks on the summit of the Highland and Catskill mountains. A small shrub two or three feet high, branches upright slender red, petiols and peduncles red, fruit small, ripe in August, blossoming in May.

27. *Equisetum montanum* Raf. Rough, sterile and fertile stems very branched striated, sheaths rufous nearly quadrifid, divisions ovate acute trinerved, branches two or three-chotomous, small branches adscend-

ent filiforme, flexuose triqueter or compressed, rufous caliculated, leaves subulate, ternate, or opposite.—Obs. A singular species found with Mr. Knevels on the Catskill mountains, in woods near the two lakes; it has some affinity with the *E. Sylvaticum*, and rises about two feet.

28. *Stellaria tenella* Raf. Very smooth, stem, dichotome diffuse slender tetragone; leaves linear entire nearly obtuse, the upper ones oblong cuneate; flowers terminal, phylles of the calyx ovate acute, petals scarcely longer bipartite linear, capsuls globular.—Obs. This plant had been taken by Bigelow and several American Botanists, for the *St. graminea* or *St. palustris*, while it differs from either. It might also be the undescribed *St. longifolia* of Muhlenberg's catalogue. I found it in 1803 near Philadelphia, and in 1817 found it, with Mr. Torrey, abundant near Poughkeepsie in a wood near brooks, it grows also near Fishkill and in many other places. It blossoms in June: flowers white as in the whole genus, the stems are sometimes upright, the lower leaves are short, sometimes a little pubescent at the base or union, bracteas subulate scariose, shorter than the peduncles.

29. *Stellaria montana* Raf. Smooth, stem upright dichotome diffuse, leaves lanceolate acute entire ciliolate; peduncles filiform, at the dichotomies; phylles ovate lanceolate, margin scariose, petals bipartite shorter than the calyx, capsuls ovate longer than the calyx.—Obs. A different species, which has much affinity with the foregoing, found with Mr. Knevels on the Catskill mountains in June, in shady and moist grounds, near the two lakes. It has sometimes four styles!

30. *Juniperus depressus* Raf. Stems cespitose-depressed spreading decumbent, little branches obtuse trigone; leaves ternate spreading subulate spinous mucronate, white striped above, convex and oneveined beneath: male catkins ternate nearly sessile obovate obtuse, half the length of the leaves, berries globular, shorter than the leaves.—Obs. This species of Juniper is very remarkable and distinct; it had been considered as a variety of *J. communis* by Pursh. It appears to have an extensive range in North America, since it is found in Canada, Maine, and perhaps as far west as the Columbia river; I observed it in 1816 near Saratoga and Lake George, and in 1817 found with Mr. Torrey its southern range in the state of New-York, between Wappinger's creek and Poughkeepsie. It always grows in dry and sterile soil, it forms a circular and flat bush, sometimes twenty feet in circumference, and not above two or three high; its bark is wrinkled cinereous brown, the berries are large sessile trisulcated above: foliage thick, leaves longer than the internodes, not very rigid, appearing decurrent by having the angles under them.

Art. 7. LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL INTELLIGENCE.

GREAT BRITIAN.

SIR Humphrey Davy has made a further discovery in regard to combustion, which will prove a very great improvement to his safety lamp. He thus describes it in a letter to the Rev. J. Hodgson of Heworth:—

"I have succeeded in producing a light perfectly safe and economical, which is *most brilliant* in atmospheres in which the flame of the safety lamp is extinguished, and which burns in every mixture of carburetted hydrogen gas that is respirable. It consists of a slender metallic tissue of platinum, which is hung in the top of the interior of the common lamp of wire gauze, or in that of the twilled lamp. It costs from 6d. to 1s. and is imperishable. This tissue, when the common lamp is introduced into an explosive atmosphere, becomes red hot, and continues to burn the gas in contact with it as long as the air is respirable; when the atmosphere again becomes explosive; the *flame* is relighted. I can now burn any inflammable vapour either with or without flame at pleasure, and make the wire consume it either with red or white heat. I was led to this result by discovering slow combustions without flame, and at last I found a metal which made these harmless combustions visible."

A correspondent of the Philosophical Magazine complains loudly of the omissions and erroneous figures and calculations in the Nautical Almanack. He points out more than 40 considerable errors in the Almanack for 1819.

FRANCE.

A work entitled Memoirs of the History of the Fifty Years from 1760 to 1810, by the late Abbe Georgel, is about to be published in three volumes. The announcement of it, from the character and opportunities of the author, who was a distinguished Jesuit, and Secretary to the Cardinal de Rohan, has excited a strong interest.

Constantine Nicolopoulo, of Smyrna, Professor of Greek Literature, has published, at Paris, a Greek Ode on Spring, to which he has prefixed an epistle in Greek verse, addressed to Count Capo D'Istria.

ITALY.

A letter from Naples, dated July 20, says—"The present eruptions of Vesuvius are astonishing. Copper, iron, alkaline acid, sulphur, sulphuric acid, chalk, and ammonia, form salts that are sometimes in a mass and sometimes divided. It is observed that copper is very much mixed with volcanic matter; quantities of it are found among the different kinds of lava. Vesuvius, which since the year 1813 has been more or less in a state of commotion, has entirely covered its former crater with a thick crust, over which the new eruptions have thrown two little mountains, from which come smoke, ashes, and vitrified stones. The earth is covered with bits of transparent glass. This crust is so considerable, that if it is not propped up, the sinking of the matter composing it will produce an effect like that of the eruption which took place in the time of Titus."

Professor Morichini, of Rome, having discovered the magnetizing power of the violet rays of the prismatic spectrum, the Marquis Ridolsi has succeeded in magnetizing two needles, the one in 30, the other in 46 minutes, and can now charge with the magnetic power, by the same process, as many needles as he pleases. The needles thus magnetized (namely by directing on and passing over them, for a period of not less than 30 minutes, the violet rays of the spectrum, through the medium of a condensing lens) possess all the energy and the properties of needles magnetised in a common way by means of a loadstone. Their HOMONOMOUS poles repel, their HETERONOMOUS poles attract each other: and made to vibrate on a pivot, their points turn constantly to the north, their heads to the south! This adds to the wonders of magnetism, and must be regarded as a very extraordinary discovery.

GERMANY.

The *Political Zeitung* of Munich, of the 10th August, contains the following meteorological remarks.

"The great and remarkable opening in the sun's atmosphere of clouds, *(wolkigen sonnen atmosphare,)* of which notice has been lately taken, was visible only a little before it vanished at the western edge on the 5th of August, at which period a number of little openings began to unite themselves into two spots; storms and much rain followed. It must be of great utility to farmers to be able to foretel fair or stormy weather, from observations of the spots on the sun, which are easily examined in the middle of summer, in the same way as we can do for the coming day or night, by the rising and setting sun. A great number of the latest observations confirm Herschel's opinion, that like the planets *(verander lichen sternen)* one half of the sun is less favourable to an abundant discharge of rays than the other, and that many spots on the sun make the year warmer and more fruitful. So much is certain, that in defect of spots on the sun, the atmosphere is more serene, as happened in the year 1811, in which none appeared during the whole summer; but it showed likewise that such a year must not of necessity be unfruitful, as was the case in the years 1795 and 1799. It is yet more certain that very warm and very cold weather can alone depend on the periodical abundance or scarcity of combustible matter *(brennstoff)* in the sun, since the moon and the planets can neither cause heat nor cold. In the year 541, which was one of famine and pestilence, the rays of the sun, according to Cedrenus, were as feeble as those of the moon, and yet the weather was so clear that in Italy they observed the comets of that time; the chronicle writers remark, that excessively dry summers (as the year 763, and the year 1800, remarkable for spots on the sun, and woods taking fire) follow a very copious appearance of meteors *(sternschnuppen.)* In nature great matters more constantly depend upon each other than minute, and it becomes us to observe and take advantage of that dependence: it is to be wished therefore, that meteorologists may apply themselves to a diligent observation of the spots on the sun."

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The following extract of a letter from Count De La Cepede, President of the French Academy of Sciences at Paris, to Dr. Mitchill of New-York, dated 14th June, 1817 is flattering and interesting to Americans.

After generously making a tender of his elaborate and admirable work on Fishes, the illustrious writer proceeds thus: "I have just finished another great work which will probably occupy two volumes in quarto, and which will be entitled *Ages of Nature, and History of the Human Species.* I read the preliminary discourse to it, at a public sitting on the 19th of the last month, when I opened my course of zoology in the royal Museum of Natural History. This performance will be found to contain numerous proofs of my admiration for the respectable nation of the United States, and for the illustrious men who honour it, and

have honoured it; as well as a picture, such I have been able to conjecture, on the subject of its glorious destiny.

"The ministry of our king, a few days ago, actuated by the enlightened zeal of our minister plenipotentiary in the United States, asked of the Academy of Sciences, a body of instructions relative to travels through the different countries of North America, for the express purpose of promoting the Natural Sciences. On this occasion I observed to the Academy, that nothing better could be done on that subject, than to have recourse to the information and complaisance of yourself, and the other distinguished *scavans* of the United States."

The St. Stephens paper of Oct. 10 contains the following interesting article. "The woods between this place and Chickasawks are filled with yellow butterflies, migrating at the rate of 4 or 5 miles an hour, when on the wing, and all marching in an eastern direction. The species appears to have been unobserved before. From tip to tip of its wings, it is from 2 to 2 1-2 inches. The body, when divested of its down, is black. The wings are decked with spots of orange or brown. It has the general appearance of feebleness; and has, probably, lately emerged from the caterpillar state.

"The first notice taken of these butterflies was about three weeks ago. They frequently loiter in groupes about mud holes, or stop to regale themselves on the flowers with which the woods still abound. The opposite direction of the wind has no influence on their course.

"This phenomenon not only excites the attention of the planter, as having a possible and not improbable connexion with his interest; but it affords ground for a curious speculation on the nature of that impulse, to which it is owing that these insects persist in migrating in a course, which will afford them no additional protection against approaching cold weather, nor seems to be favourable, in any one particular, to their existence."

The Medical College in Transylvania University, Kentucky, is completely organized and in operation. The courses of lectures were commenced in November. The faculty consists of James Overton, M. D. Professor of the Institutes and Practice of Medicine; B. W. Dudley, M. D. Professor of Anatomy and Surgery; Daniel Drake, M. D. Professor of Materia Medica and Botany; W. H. Richardson, Professor of Obstetrics, and the Diseases of Women and Children; James Blythe, D. D. Professor of Chemistry.

The Rev. Horace Holley, of Boston, has been chosen President of Transylvania University.

The Hon. S. L. Mitchill, of New-York, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Medical Society of Copenhagen.

We understand that the complete edition of Franklin's works, which William Duane, Esq. of Philadelphia, has been several years in preparing, will soon be published in five volumes octavo.

Art. 3. RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Ninth Report of the Committee of the London Society for promoting Christianity among the Jews, states that great progress has been made towards completing a Hebrew translation of the New Testament. The gospels of St. Luke and St. John, the Acts of the Apostles, and the Epistles to the Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Thessalonians, to Timothy, Titus, and Philemon, have already been published. The prospects of the Society are represented as flattering. The success in circulating the Testament has been greater among the Jews on the Continent than in England. It is estimated that the number of Jews in the Russian Empire is 2,000,000; of which 400,000 are in Poland.

RUSSIA.

Missionaries have been sent out to convert the Mongul Tartars.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The following Societies have become Auxiliaries to the American Bible Society.

The Female B. S. of Harpersfield, N. Y. formed in October, 1817; Mrs. Catharine M'Intyre, Secretary.—The Auxiliary B. S. of the towns of Preble and Tully, N. Y.—The Aux. B. S. of William and Mary, and St. Andrew, parishes, Md. instituted in November last; Rev. John Brady, President; M. C. Jones, Secretary; Robert Hammet, Treasurer.—The B. S. of the young men of Pittsburgh, Pa. recently formed.—These make the number of Auxiliaries known, 122.

The Rev. Cheeven Felch, Chaplain in the U. S. Navy, was admitted to the holy order of Priest, by the Right Rev. Bishop Griswold, at St. Paul's Church, Dedham, on the 25th of November. At the same time, Mr. James B. Howe, of Boston, was admitted to the holy order of Deacon.

The Rev. John Smith was installed as Pastor of the Church and Society in Wenham, Mass. on the 26th of November.

The Rev. Heman Humphrey was installed Pastor of the Church and Society in Pittsfield, Mass. on the 26th of November.

ART. 9. POETRY.

The following portion of the first book of Lucan's Pharsalia, being a specimen of a translation of the whole of that poem, now preparing for the press, in England, by Doctor Busby, the well-known translator of Lucretius, has been obligingly furnished us by a friend.

THE war that drenched with blood the Emathian plain,
When Civil-Discord held her wildest reign;
When bold Ambition, confident of might,
Grasped her fell sword, and burst the bonds of right—
A race that, in a mad, contentious, hour,
On its own vitals turned its conquering power;
Romans 'gainst Romans marshalled—These the Muse,
Borne on her wing of flame, with rage pursues:
Sings of the State, whose laws relaxed, dissolved,
In her own doom the shaken world involved;
When eagles eagles, javelins javelins, dared,
And 'gainst their kindred legions, legions warred;
Devouring fury spread to every clime,
And plunged the world in undistinguished crime.
O chiefs! O citizens! what frenzy hurled
To ills like these the Sovereigns of the world?
What Demon prompted when your blood ye poured
To vanquished nations, and the vassal sword?
Where, when proud Babylon your glorious toils
Might grace with trophies of Ausonian spoils,
When Crassus' wandering shade for vengeance cried—
Where was your virtue? where the Roman pride?
O, lost to shame, to sense! to squander life,
And barter honour for inglorious strife!
Gods! what new realms by land, by sea, the arms
That drank your gore, and worked your direst harms,
For Rome had won! realms from which Titan flings
His earliest rays, and morning's beauty brings;
Or where Night's sullen shade the stars conceals,
Or raging Noontide rolls on burning wheels;
Where keenest winter binds the Scythian stream,
And Nature knows not Spring's relaxing beam;
Realms where, in mountain caverns, pendent woods,
Dwell the wild Seres and their sylvan gods;
Or where Araxes' billows roaring flow,
Or people (if such people Afric know)
Far south of Rome, beneath the Tropics toil,
And tracts inhabit at the Source of Nile.
Burn your fierce hearts with love of martial deed?
Fly to your foes—for Rome let Romans bleed;
Foes hath your country known in every age,
And still finds enemies to glut your rage;
New sceptres, new dominions, when ye've won,
When all ye've conquered, and the world's your own,
Then, foes to nature, bring the battle home,
And quench your fury in the blood of Rome.
Lo, the grand bulwarks recent labour raised,
That Genius modelled, and that judgment prais'd;
No more their towers the pompous head erect,
The tottering turrets chide your base neglect;
Stone after stone the mouldering rampart falls,
Half-ruined stand the gaping, nodding, walls,
In towns and cities friends no longer meet;
All blank desertion in the silent street!
Rude thorns and brambles choke Hesperia's plains,
Nor bounteous harvests spring from golden grains;
All waste and fallow lies her seedless soil,
And hungry deserts crave the ploughman's toil:
No foes like ye the reeking state have gored,
Nor Hannibal's nor Pyrrhus' ruthless sword;
Shallow the wounds *they* gave, scarce known to fame,
Only yourselves can sink the Roman name.
But since so rare celestial glory's given,
And so immense a price must purchase Heaven;
Nor Jove his own immortal reign enjoy'd,
'Till the red bolt his giant foes destroy'd,
No plaint our tongues, no sigh our bosoms, yield,
But present joy shall Rome's misfortunes gild.
All hell may echo with our civil woes,
And soothe the manes of our punic foes;
Munda behold Contention's rage renewed,
And new Pharsalias float with Roman blood:
Perusia squalid Famine may consume,
And Mutina from war receive her doom;
The stormy surges that round Leuca roar,
May dash the Latian fleet upon her shore—
Yet if the fates these dread events ordain,
This gory path to Nero's golden reign;
Such ills, exulting, Romans will survey,
Ills well endured for Cæsar's glorious sway.
O, Cæsar! when thou hast run thy bright career,
And consummated all thy glory here;
In heaven's high Palace when thou tak'st thy seat,
And stars beneath are proud to kiss thy feet;
When at thy presence pealing raptures roll,
And a new joy's diffused from pole to pole;
Then, whether thou assume imperial sway,
Or mount the flame-invested car of day,
Guiding the fiery steeds with golden reins,
Round joyful earth, and heaven's exulting plains
Whoe'er the God whose honours thou would'st wear,
Whose power, whose glory, whose dominion, bear,

Thy claim supreme that Deity shall own,
To thee that Deity resign his throne.
But not near Arctos fix thy sacred state,
Nor where the southern skies dissolve with heat;
Lest as oblique thy guardian glories come,
They bless too faintly thy adoring Rome;
If either axis thou approach too near,
And press too partially the yielding sphere,
The stars, unbalanced, will their order break,
The centre tremble, and the zenith shake;
Throned in mid-aether, mark, with gracious eye,
The world's great scales, by thee suspended high,
And with thy equal influence poise the sky.
Around thee there serenest airs shall shine,
Nor clouds obscure our Cæsar's form divine.
Then fatal Enmity shall far be hurled,
Pale Want retire, and Plenty bless the world:
Peace shall the gates of angry Janus close,
War quit the earth, and all mankind repose.
But now, Great Cæsar! noblest thoughts inspire,
Fill, fill me with thy own imperial fire!
Thou, Cæsar! Thou my Patron God! the Power,
That rules o'er sacred Cyrrha's mystic hour,
No longer I invoke—nor Bacchus call
From Indian Nysa's plain—Thou, thou art all
My soul's desire—to Thee the powers belong
To raise the Muse, instruct her tuneful tongue,
And warm and energize the Roman Song.
At these tremendous things my spirit fires,
O, lend the force my mighty theme requires!
Broached the great work—now bid my strains declare
What cause impelled impetuous Rome to war;
Drove from the world with aggravating might,
Indulgent peace and every calm delight:
Tell the dire evils of malignant fate,
Foe to the lengthened glories of our state,
And prone to crush her with destruction's weight.
Ills more disastrous than the final hour,
When earth, deserted by cohesion's power,
Long ages past, a crumbling wreck shall fall,
And night and ancient Chaos conquer all;
The fiery planets from their orbits leap,
Stars clash with stars, and plunge into the deep:
When his broad tides no more old Ocean pours,
Nor earth extends her circumscribing shores;
When Cynthia, as disdainful of the sun,
Shall bid her silver-pinioned coursers run
Full on his blazing orb—or wandering fly
Self-urged, self-kindled, through the sloping sky;
While Nature, agonized through all her frame,
Bursts her vast limits, and expires in flame!
On mighty things this law the gods impose—
From mighty things their own destruction flows.
No barbarous power, by Fortune's wild decree,
Could subjugate the Lords of earth and sea:
Thou, Rome! who ne'er had owned a tyrant's sway,
Of Three, at length, became the struggling prey.
O, maddened people! thus your doom to court!
The fools of frenzy, and perdition's sport!
To civil warfare blindly were ye hurled,
Holding in dread suspense the trembling world.
While earth the ocean, aether earth contains,
While Father Titan scours the aethereal plains.
While starry Night succeeds the radiant Day,
And leads through lustrous Signs her silent way,
No friendly bonds shall either rival own—
His lust the sole dominion, and a Throne.
Fear not that foreign thunders burst your gates,
Nor look remotely to the envious Fates:
When first your city was with discord rent,
Did not fraternal blood your walls cement?
Yet then the prize of power could less excite,
Than now, the outrage of Ambitious Might;
Simple, uncostly, rose the regal dome,
Less tempted Romans to be foes of Rome.
Crassus awhile the jarring chiefs restrained,
Crassus awhile reluctant peace maintained;
A timely barrier stood—a transient stay—
Between Ambition and her gory sway.
A narrow Isthmus thus the sea divides,
And at due distance keeps the neighbouring tides;
When ocean chases the receding shore,
The Ionian billows in the Ægaen pour.
So when the Parthian scythe, or flying spear,
Arrested Crassus in his rash career,
On Carrhæ's plain his life, his glories, close,
And Rome in sanguinary discord rose.
Ye, fell Arsacidae! a deadlier blow
Dealt than yourselves designed, and wrought a mightier woe!
Intestine war upon the vanquished poured,
And Latium bled beneath the Latian sword.
Split is the raging empire—rent in twain—
The fortunes of the globe—her lands—her main—
Could not for two insatiate souls suffice—
Each Rival for the sole dominion tries—
One universal Lord must grasp the boundless prize.
Thou, Julia! ravished from the cheerful light,
Snatched by relentless Fate to endless night,
With thee dissolved the bond of kindred blood,
And Hymen's torch expired, the pledge of public good.
But longer had'st thou felt the flame of life,
A father's and a husband's fatal strife,
Thy love had stilled—Fury her sword had sheathed—
Ambition slept—in peace thy country breathed—
So once of old the Sabine Matrons soothed
Two nations' wrath, and war's grim visage smoothed.
The deathful power that wrought thy early doom,
Brought woe and violated faith to Rome;
An equal then each towering hero spurned,
Fierce and more fierce each Rivals' courage burned.
Thou, Pompey! dread'st lest Cæsar's future fame
Should rise superior and obscure thy name;
New Gallic victories bid thy glory bow;
And blast the pirate laurels on thy brow:
While thy proud foe, in toils and triumphs nursed,
As first in arms, in empire will be first:
Nor thou will deign divided sway to share,
Nor haughty Cæsar a superior bear.
Who with the greater justice waged the war,
What bold, what rash, presumption shall declare?
Each for his cause exalted sanction claims,
And Jove and Cato fan Bellona's flames;
To Cæsar that his conquering aid extends,
And this to Pompey clings, and Freedom's vanquished friends.
Unequal power the Rival Chiefs display,
One bends to stealing Age and slow decay;
Beneath the toga courts his fame's increase—
Lost is the soldier in the calms of peace.
His lavish gifts the giddy mob endear—
They feed and flatter his insatiate ear:
He joys to hear the crowd his glory raise,
His own proud theatre resound his praise;
On Fortune's favours founds a sovereign's claim,
Great in the shadow of a mighty name.
So a huge oak that rears his leafless head,
While wide around his barren honours spread,

Thick-hung with trophies of successful fight,
The sacred offerings of triumphant might;
Lifts proudly to the skies his branchy state,
Weak at the root, sustained but by his weight;
O'er the rich soil his trunk's broad shadow throws,
And nods and trembles to each wind that blows;
Though lofty groves in grandeur round him rise,
And bear their verdant beauties to the skies,
He claims alone the popular applause,
He all the pious veneration draws.
But Cæsar, while he boasts a soldier's fame,
Feeds in his heart Mars' ever-restless flame;
One only shame his fiery soul could know—
To yield the battle's glory to the foe.
While hope or anger his ambition raised,
Untameably his martial spirit blazed;
To fresh success with sanguine sword he moved,
And all the bounty of the Gods improved:
Crushing whate'er his projects dare oppose,
And smiling o'er the havock of his foes.
In tempests thus the glaring lightning flies,
And opens all the terrors of the skies;
Pierces the clouds, while raging aether roars,
And the crashed universe its thunder pours;
Blasts the fair day, shoots thick its lurid light,
The astonished nations petrifies with fright,
With flash oblique the airy region scours,
Shatters the temples of the Immortal Powers,
Of mightiest Jove himself, the Lightning's Lord!
Nor fanes nor battlements defence afford.
First downward darts its ire, then upward springs,
Shakes ruin from its coruscating wings,
Collects its scattered force—descends—rebounds—
Seas boil—earth trembles—and the sky resounds!
Hence either Leader's proud pretensions flow,
While public vice invites the public woe.
Fortune the seeds of Luxury had sown,
Seeds whence the ills of mightiest realms have grown;
Wealth of the vanquished world, too long enjoyed,
The virtuous love of liberty destroyed;
All of loose waste and dissipation share,
The fruits of rapine, and the spoils of war:
Gold rears the palace for its gorgeous lord,
Gold with the costly banquet loads the board;
Robes that e'en bridal beauty would disdain,
Voluptuous men assume—no more remain
War's hardy race—rude Poverty was scorned,
Mother of worth that ancient Rome adorned.
Pernicious pleasures through the world were sought,
Whate'er a nation ruins, dearly bought:
With simple manners, patriot zeal retired,
And all the nobler energies expired.
Then were far-distant fields in one combined—
Lands where a Consul's ploughshare once had shined,
Now lordly aliens hold—Slaves till the soil
Where once patrician Curius deigned to toil!
Then Peace and Freedom fled the factious state,
And Passion ruled the popular debate.
To rise, by force, thy country's tyrant lord,
Was deemed a glorious effort of the sword,
And want-engendered Crime stalked fearlessly abroad.
Justice no more her balance equal saw,
And power became the measure of the law.
Hence new decrees the harassed people frame:
Consuls and Tribunes mutual strife inflame.
Both for the prize of power exert their might,
And both contend against the people's right.
And now the purchased mob their favours sold,
And e'en the Fasces find their price in gold:
The annual votes are bought with annual bribes,
And base corruption rules the venal tribes.
Hence Prodigality's unbounded sway,
Hard Usury that waits his timely prey:
And Treachery, and Discord's maddening reign—
The States' destruction, and the Rabble's gain.

Now the high Alps swift Cæsar left behind—
On future war revolved his towering mind,
And proud dominion—when before his bands,
As near the narrow Rubicon he stands,
Enveloped in the darkness of the night,
His country's Image burst upon his sight!
A wild, stupendous, agitated form,
Labouring with anguish and intestine storm:
Down from her awful head with turrets crowned,
Her torn, dishevelled tresses stream around;
Bare were her arms—and now with mingled sighs,
And intermitting groans, aloud she cries—
"Whither, brave Soldiers! whither tends your course?
"Urge ye beyond this stream your conquering force?
"O, if my lawful citizens ye come,
"Here stop—here limit your advance to Rome—
"Respect my boundary, nor invade your home!
A chilling horror seized the Hero's frame,
Stiffened his hair, and damped his martial flame;
Faint grew his limbs, and paralyzed he stood,
Fixed to the Alpine margin of the flood.
Then burst his speech—"O, Thunderer throned on high!
"Who from Tarpeia's Rock, with gracious eye,
"The City viewest whose fortunes boundless shine!
"Ye Household Deities from Troy divine!
"Gods of the Julian Race!—Thou, Latian Jove!
"Whose Alban Temple glitters from above:
"Ye Rites of Romulus (who pierced the skies,
"Borne in the lightning's blaze) Dark Mysteries!
"And ye, Devoted Fervours! Vestal Fires!
"Whose sacred flame unceasingly aspires;
"But chiefly Thou, whom awful now I see,
"My honoured Rome! my Great Divinity!
"Crown with thy auspices my high design;
"'Gainst Thee I wage no warfare—Power Divine!
"I, thy victorious chief, by land, by sea,
"Strike for my country's glory, strike for Thee!
"Me thy true soldier all my deeds proclaim,
"Cæsar for Thee first felt a warrior's flame.
"He who this strife compels, be his the crime—
"For Thee to battle, Cæsar's praise sublime!
He said: nor more his ardour brooked delay,
But through the swelling stream he urged his daring way.
So when on Mauritania's torrid sands,
The caverned Lion scents the hostile bands,
Kindles his ire, and, burning to assail,
Foments his fury with his lashing tail;
Erects his mane, his rage in thunder pours,
Flames at his eye, and maddens as he roars.
Then if his haunt the approaching foe molest,
And pierce with flying darts his dauntless breast;
Or if, the thronging war adventuring near,
He feel the pressing Moor's insulting spear,
Disdainful of the wound the missile brings,
His boiling bosom swells, and forth he springs.

While fervid Summer flings her burning beam,
Flows the red Rubicon a slender stream,
His urn no more supplies the wonted tide,
And shallower waves along his vallies glide,
A languid lapse his liquid boundary yields,
And severs Gaul from fair Ausonia's fields;
But now the sluicy Winter comes amain,
From her full horn dank Cynthia pours the rain;
At her third rise, the river swelling flows,
And Eurus' humid breath dissolves the Alpine snows.
To stem the flood's obliquely-driving force,
First mid the billows plunge the dauntless horse;
Then through the obstructed tide the legions pour,
Subdue the waves, and mount the Hesperian shore.
Past the rough stream, bold on forbidden land
Stood the great Chief, and hailed the Ausonian strand; ——

Art. 10. DRAMATIC CENSOR.

NEW-YORK THEATRE.

MR. Phillips continued through a second engagement to delight the most crowded and fashionable houses. The audience were never weary of listening to him, and he seemed never tired of complying with their wishes. His grace and his urbanity contributed not less than his vocal powers to render him a universal favourite. He has left behind him an impression not easily effaced. Wherever he goes he will receive a cordial welcome; whenever he shall return to New-York a hearty greeting awaits him.

Mr. Hilson's engagement terminated in the last month. His benefit drew an immense house; attracted, as well by good will to an actor, who 'take him for all in all,' is at the head of his profession in this country, as by a strong curiosity to see him in the novel character of Richard the third. He enacted this arduous part in a manner highly creditable to his natural and mimic talents. His conception was excellent, his enunciation good, his emphasis generally just. As a *coup d'essai*, his performance is entitled to the highest commendation, and leads us to hope that he will aspire to what we think he may attain, the rank of a distinguished tragedian. Had we never seen Mr. Hilson in *Numpo, &c. &c.* or had he appeared before us without any comic associations, and had he himself been divested of the apprehension of ridicule, a greater effect would have been produced, on the one hand, by his actual representation, whilst on the other, a greater scope would have been given for the exertion of powers which we are pursuaded he possesses.

The other members of the dramatic corps have played with various degrees of merit and approbation. Mr. Pritchard has obtained deserved applause in a line somewhat wide from his usual walks. If this gentleman could gain that self-possession which he certainly ought to derive from the complacency with which the audience regard him, he would rapidly advance in professional rank. Mr Barnes grows in public favour, but is too extravagant. Mr. Johnson has exerted himself, and not in vain. Mr. Simpson and Mr. Robertson have had few favourable opportunities for exertion. Mr. Baldwin improves. Mrs. Darley has displayed her vocal powers on several occasions to much advantage. We have seen Mrs. Barnes but once, and then in a character which did not admit of great range of talent. Miss Johnson played with unwonted ease, nature, and vivacity in *Brother and Sister*. Miss Dellinger has acquitted herself tolerably in more than one piece. Mrs. Baldwin has maintained her reputation in her peculiar cast of characters. Of Mr. Darley, Mr. Jones, Mr. Bancker, and Mr. Williams, we shall say nothing—of Mr. Holland, Mr. Hopper, Mr. Graham, &c. we have nothing to say.

Art. 11. MONTHLY SUMMARY OF POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

EUROPE.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

THE internal state of Great-Britain, with the general return of employment and revival of industry, seems to have become quite tranquil. The restless spirits are looking toward South-America for occupation, and recruits for the patriots are openly raised, and in considerable numbers. The English papers state that "at Birmingham, Liverpool, Sheffield, Nottingham, Glasgow, and other mercantile towns, scarcely a manufacturer is unemployed. At Manchester not a bale of goods remains unsold, and the orders for fire-arms at Birmingham, supposed to be destined for South-America, are beyond all precedent. In consequence of the high prices of American cotton, the English manufacturers have begun to procure that material from India; whence, it is stated, that in the year 1816, 15,000 bales were imported, and that during the present year, 100,000 bales have been imported, in return for which, Manchester goods have been sent out at such moderate prices as to command an extensive sale.

The number of emigrants who have sailed from the port of Belfast for America, from March 17th to August 21st, inclusive, is, for Philadelphia 252, New-York 331, Norfolk 40, Baltimore 251, St. Andrews 256, Quebec 1030—Total, 2169.

Died.] At Brompton, on Tuesday, the 14th of October, of the palsy, the celebrated

Right Honourable John Philpot Curran, in the 70th year of his age. Mr. Curran was a native of Cork, in Ireland; and received his classical education at Trinity College, Dublin. After having attained to the highest honours of the bar, he was elected a member of the Irish House of Commons, where he continued the steady advocate of the popular cause. In 1807 he succeeded Sir Michael Smith, as Master of the Rolls, in Ireland. Very early in life Mr. Curran married Miss O'Dell, a lady of respectable family, but of slender fortune, by whom he had a son, who is at the bar, and two daughters. At the time of his death he enjoyed a pension of £3,000 settled upon him, at the resignation of his office in favour of Sir William M'Mahon, the present Master of the Rolls in Ireland.

At his seat at Ammondell, on the 8th of October, the Honourable Henry Erskine. Mr. Erskine was long the Dean of Faculty, to which he was raised by his brethren, from their respect for the superiority of his talents, and his uniform maintenance of the dignity and independence of the bar. On the return of the Whigs, to office, he was appointed Lord Advocate of Scotland, at the time when his brother was made Lord Chancellor of Great-Britain.

FRANCE.

Nothing of much interest has occurred in France since our last. Late accounts speak of a conference that has been held with the Duke of Wellington by the Russian, Austrian, Prussian, and Netherland Ambassadors, and the Duke de Richelieu, supposed to relate to the army of occupation, which, as it is also supposed, will be continued in its present situation, and in undiminished force. The troops of the right wing of the army of occupation, which extends from the Maese to the North Sea, are now composed as follows:—The Russian corps amounts to 23,400, including all the persons belonging to the troops. The British corps consists of 22,200 men, of whom it is supposed that 20,000 are really military. The Danes, Saxons, and Hanoverians, make together a corps of about 12,000 men, including all the persons attached to the troops. Every regiment of infantry has two field pieces completely equipped, besides a a large park in reserve; and the British corps has besides a numerous horse artillery. The commander of the Russian corps has contracted in these provinces for a quantity of accoutrements. Louis has entered his 58th year, and is said to be in good health, and active in business. He has given his consent to the marriage of the Duchess of Castiglione, the widow of Marshall Augereau, to Count de St. Aldegorde. Marshall Oudinot is the military favourite at court. The Grand Admiral of France has been visiting the Marine *depots;* and the minister of the interior has issued instructions from the Board of Agriculture, to prevent the distillation of all farinaceous substances, and of potatoes, which are to be converted into bread-stuff.

During the month of September 114 vessels sailed from Havre, viz: 61 French, 16 American, 10 English, 1 from Bremen, 1 Danish, 10 Dutch, 9 Norwegian, 2 Prussian, 1 Russian, and 4 Swedish.

A sepulchre has been made in France for the remains of Marshal Massena. They have raised over it a Marble Obelisk 20 feet high, with a Pedestal of 5 feet. On one side of the Pedestal is the portrait of the Marshal, on another his arms, and on the two others batons and other military emblems.

SPAIN.

Spain is assiduously engaged in enlarging her marine establishment, a policy in a great measure dictated by the exposure of her commerce to the pirates of South-America, who harass it greatly. It is reported that Spain has purchased from Russia five ships of the line and three frigates, which are on their way to Spain, where the Russian crews will be replaced by Spanish, and the former reconveyed home. It is believed that the ship Asia, and a frigate, which are now fitting at Cadiz, will join the above squadron, from which divisions will be formed, destined, exclusively to protect maritime commerce on different points of the colonies. The general opinion is, that no troops will be embarked in these vessels.

It is stated that the king of Spain, in consequence of a loan, by the British government, of £400,000 has agreed to abolish the slave-trade. If this be true, then there will be but one nation in Europe; the Portuguese, engaged openly in that traffic, and she must in a short time follow the general example.

The Spanish Consul at Rouen has notified all French persons, who propose to emigrate to South America, to join the Spanish insurgents, that if they are taken with arms in their hands they will be treated as robbers.

ITALY.

According to the accounts from Italy, the king of the Two Sicilies has issued a decree, forbidding his subjects from addressing the Holy See for dispensations, briefs, or rescripts, without having previously obtained his Majesty's permission. The Papal Bulls also are for the future to be of no effect unless they have the Royal *exequatur.*

A new Convent of Jesuits has been formed in Piedmont. One of the principal noblemen of the Court of Turin, the Marquis Grimaldi, has taken their habit. The government has taken an annual revenue of 24,000 francs from the University of Geno, to give it to this religious order.

NETHERLANDS.

Great activity is displayed in the erection of fortifications in the strong places and cities towards the French frontier; the city of Charleroi already presents the appearance of a fortress of the first order, and is expected to become one of the strongest bulwarks of the kingdom toward the Sambre. On the other part, the line of the Meuse is becoming for-

midable, from the works erecting at Liege and Namur.

The result of the negotiations at the Hague between the ministers of the Netherlands and the United States of America, has been transmitted to the respective governments.

GERMANY.

The Diet of the Germanic Confederation have resolved that they will receive ministers from the several European States, and also from the United States of America; and that they will represent themselves by ministers at foreign courts, whenever the interests of the confederation shall require it In consequence of the great emigration from Germany to the United States of America, a representative has been sent by the confederation to watch over the interests of his countrymen upon their arrival in America.

The celebrated mineralogist, Werner, who died at Dresden on the 9th of June last, at the age of 87 years, gave in his will, his collection of minerals to the Academy of Freyburg: it contained more than 100,000 specimens, and is valued at 150,000 crowns.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Court will spend the ensuing winter at Moscow. Major General Count Van Tuyl has been appointed ambassador from the Emperor of Russia to the United States of America, in the place of M. Daschkoff, and is on his way thither. The Russian General Yermoloff has gone on a mission to Persia. This envoy has carried with him, plans, letters, and reports, sent to Bonaparte at the time of his invasion of Russia, and found in his abandoned carriages after his retreat, which had convinced Napoleon that an expedition to India was practicable; and it is said to be an ascertained fact, that if he could have compelled Russia to make such a peace as he wished, he had resolved to send a Russian and French force on that expedition. A deputation from the nobles of Courland has presented a resolution for the abolition of personal servitude among the peasants of that province, for which they have requested the confirmation of the Emperor. The nobles of Esthonia were amongst the first of those of the Empire who had given last year the noble example of the abolition of slavery.

The harvest throughout the Empire is represented to be very abundant, and the weather serene.

TURKEY.

The apprehension of a war between Russia and Turkey, has been removed by intelligence from Semlin, stating that the Porte had ordered the Servian commandant, Ricehta, who put Czerny Georges to death, to be delivered up to the Russians.

ASIA.

EAST INDIES.

By a late census of the Island of Bombay, it appears, there are 403,736 Hindoos, 27,811 Mahometans, 13,155 Parsees, 11,454 native Christians, 731 Jews. The houses are 20,786. This estimate is exclusive of temporary sojourners, European and native troops, or British subjects. From 60 to 70,000 persons visit the Island periodically.

AFRICA.

TUNIS.

Two Tunisian vessels captured, in July and August, several Hamburgh vessels, the crews of which were thrown into prison. A demand was made by the captain of his Britannic Majesty's frigate Myrmidon, for the surrender of the Hamburghers, which the Bashaw declined doing until the arrival of certain ships that had been captured by his cruisers, but detained by the British government. The demand was made by the British officer on the ground that the vessels were captured within the British waters, and it was accompanied by a call upon the Bashaw to enjoin upon his corsairs not to cruise henceforth in those waters. The fact was denied by the Bashaw, and the injunction would therefore be useless In consequence of this evasion, the British consul called upon the Bashaw for a categorical note, which was immediately given, but the purport of which is not stated.

AMERICA.

SPANISH AMERICA.

Venezuela.

Both Guyanas are now occupied by the forces of the Independents. In abandoning these territories the royalists left behind great quantities both of warlike supplies and articles of commerce. The richest booty, however, was taken by the naval force of the patriots, which captured from the enemy twenty-one sail of vessels, most of them brigs. The prospects of the independents in Caraccas are also bright. Letters from Guyana of the 21st to the 29th of September state, that "General Zaraza, with two thousand horse, is on the other side of the way to Orituco; General Bermudez, with two thousand infantry, one hundred dragoons, and four field pieces, is about setting out to incorporate his forces with those of the former, and occupy Calahozo and San Carlos, where they must be joined by general Paez with two thousand horse. General Monagas is ordered to take possession of Barcelona with his brigade and three hundred infantry. The remaining body of the army, commanded by the general in chief Simon de Bolivar, is preparing to march immediately; the squadron and two thousand warriors will be left to protect this province. By next December the tri-coloured flag will be seen waving triumphantly in Caraccas, and every single spot occupied by the Royalists will be freed by the liberating army."

East Florida.

On the 19th and 20th of November nine men were elected representatives of the people of Amelia, for the purpose of constituting a provincial government; they were to hold their session on the 1st of December. Since the administration of affairs fell into the hands of Aury, things have taken a turn unfavourable to the wholesome regulation of society, and from the proximity of Amelia Island to the United States of America, it

has excited the attention of that nation, and it is said that troops are moving to that quarter by the order of its government.

BRITISH AMERICA.

Canada.

Mr. Miles Macdonald, governor of Lord Selkirk's colony at Hudson's Bay, is expected at Montreal to meet his trial on the charges which have been preferred against him by the agents of the North-West Company.

News from Quebec, under date of the 24th November, states that the winter had fairly set in, and that the last vessel that would sail this season left that place the day before.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Messrs. Rodney, Graham, and Bland, have been appointed commissioners to the South-American provinces, and, with Mr. Brackenridge, secretary to the mission, have embarked on board the Congress frigate, Captain Sinclair, to proceed immediately to their place of destination.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

On Monday, December 1st, being the day appointed by the constitution for the meeting of Congress, the members of both branches assembled at the capitol, and both houses were duly organized. Mr. Gaillard took the chair as President of the Senate, *pro tempore*. Mr. Clay was chosen, by a large majority, Speaker of the House of Representatives. A committee was appointed, on the part of each house, jointly to wait on the president of the United States, to inform him of their organization.

SENATE.

Tuesday, December 2d. At 12 o'clock, this day, the following message was transmitted by the President of the United States to both houses of Congress, by his secretary, Mr. Joseph Jones Monroe.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate,
and of the House of Representatives,

At no period of our political existence, had we so much cause to felicitate ourselves at the prosperous and happy condition of our country.—The abundant fruits of the earth have filled it with plenty. An extensive and profitable commerce has greatly augmented our revenue.—The public credit has attained an extraordinary elevation. Our preparations for defence, in case of future wars, from which, by the experience of all nations, we ought not to expect to be exempted, are advancing, under a well digested system, with all the dispatch which so important a work will admit. Our free government, founded on the interests and affections of the people, has gained, and is daily gaining strength. Local jealousies are rapidly yielding to more generous, enlarged, and enlightened views of national policy. For advantages so numerous and highly important, it is our duty to unite in grateful acknowledgments to that omnipotent Being from whom they are derived, and in unceasing prayer that he will endow us with virtue and strength to maintain and hand them down, in their utmost purity, to our latest posterity.

I have the satisfaction to inform you, that an arrangement, which had been commenced by my predecessor, with the British government, for the reduction of the naval force, by Great Britain and the United States, on the lakes, has been concluded: by which it is provided, that neither party shall keep in service, on Lake Champlain, more than one vessel; on Lake Ontario more than one; and on Lake Erie, and the upper lakes, more than two; to be armed, each with one cannon only; and that all the other armed vessels, of both parties, of which an exact list is interchanged, shall be dismantled. It is also agreed, that the force retained shall be restricted, in its duty, to the internal purposes of each party; and that the arrangement shall remain in force until six months shall have expired after notice given by one of the parties to the other of its desire that it should terminate. By this arrangement, useless expense, on both sides, and, what is of still greater importance, the danger of collision, between armed vessels, in those inland waters, which was great, is prevented.

I have the satisfaction also to state, that the commissioners, under the fourth article of the treaty of Ghent, to whom it was referred to decide, to which party the several islands in the Bay of Passamaquoddy belonged under the treaty of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, have agreed in a report, by which all the islands in the possession of each party before the late war, have been decreed to it. The commissioners acting under the other articles of the treaty of Ghent, for the settlement of boundaries, have also been engaged in the discharge of their respective duties, but have not yet completed them. The difference which arose between the two governments under that treaty, respecting the right of the United States to take and cure fish on the coast of the British provinces north of our limits, which had been secured by the treaty of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, is still in negotiation. The proposition made by this government, to extend to the colonies of Great Britain the principle of the convention of London, by which the commerce between the ports of the United States and British ports in Europe, had been placed on a footing of equality, has been declined by the British government. This subject having been thus amicably discussed between the two governments, and it appearing that the British government is unwilling to depart from its present regulations, it remains for congress to decide whether they will make any other regulations, in consequence thereof, for the protection and improvement of our navigation.

The negotiation with Spain, for spoliations on our commerce, and the settlement of boundaries, remains, essentially, in the state it held by the communications that were made to congress by my predecessor. It has been evidently the policy of the Spanish government to keep the negotiation suspended, and in this the United States have acquiesced, from an amicable disposition towards Spain, and in the expectation that her government would, from a sense of justice, finally accede to such an arrangement as would be equal between the parties. A disposition has been lately shown by the Spanish government to move in the negotiation, which has been met by this government, and, should the conciliatory and friendly policy, which has invariably guided our councils, be reciprocated, a just and satisfactory arrangement may be expected. It is proper, however, to remark, that no proposition has yet

been made, from which such a result can be presumed.

It was anticipated, at an early stage, that the contest between Spain and the colonies would become highly interesting to the United States.—It was natural that our citizens should sympathize in events which affected their neighbours.—It seemed probable also, that the prosecution of the conflict along our coast, and in contiguous countries, would occasionally interrupt our commerce, and otherwise affect the persons and property of our citizens. These anticipations have been realized. Such injuries have been received from persons acting under the authority of both the parties, and for which redress has, in most instances, been withheld. Through every stage of the conflict, the United States have maintained an impartial neutrality, giving aid to neither of the parties in men, money, ships, or munitions of war. They have regarded the contest, not in the light of an ordinary insurrection or rebellion, but as a civil war between parties nearly equal, having, as to neutral powers, equal rights. Our ports have been open to both, and every article, the fruit of our soil, or of the industry of our citizens, which either was permitted to take, has been equally free to the other. Should the colonies establish their independence, it is proper now to state, that this government neither seeks, nor would accept, from them, any advantage, in commerce or otherwise, which will not be equally open to all other nations. The colonies will, in that event, become independent states, free from any obligation to, or connexion with us which it may not then be their interest to form on the basis of a fair reciprocity.

In the summer of the present year an expedition was set on foot against East-Florida, by persons claiming to act under the authority of some of the colonies, who took possession of Amelia Island, at the mouth of the St. Mary's river, near the boundary of the State of Georgia. As this province lies eastward of the Mississippi, and is bounded by the United States and the ocean on every side, and has been a subject of negotiation with the government of Spain, as an indemnity for losses by spoliation, or in exchange for territory of equal value westward of the Mississippi, a fact well known to the world, it excited surprise that any countenance should be given to this measure by any of the colonies. As it would be difficult to reconcile it with the friendly relations existing between the United States and the colonies, a doubt was entertained whether it had been authorized by them, or any of them. This doubt has gained strength, by the circumstances which have unfolded themselves in the prosecution of the enterprise, which have marked it as a mere private unauthorized adventure. Projected and commenced with an incompetent force, reliance seems to have been placed on what might be drawn, in defiance of our laws, from within our limits; and of late, as their resources have failed, it has assumed a more marked character of unfriendliness to us; the island being made a channel for the illicit introduction of slaves from Africa into the United States, an asylum for fugitive slaves from the neighbouring States, and a port for smuggling of every kind.

A similar establishment was made, at an earlier period, by persons of the same description, in the Gulph of Mexico, at a place called Galveston, within the limits of the United States, as we contend, under the cession of Louisiana. This enterprise has been marked, in a more signal manner, by all the objectionable circumstances which characterized the other, and more particularly by the equipment of privateers which have annoyed our commerce, and by smuggling. These establishments, if ever sanctioned by any authority whatever, which is not believed, have abused their trust, and forfeited all claim to consideration. A just regard for the rights and interests of the United States required that they should be suppressed; and orders have accordingly issued to that effect. The imperious considerations which produced this measure will be explained to the parties whom it may, in any degree, concern.

To obtain correct information on every subject in which the United States are interested; to inspire just sentiments, in all persons in authority, on either side, of our friendly disposition, so far as it may comport with an impartial neutrality; and to secure proper respect to our commerce in every port and from every flag, it has been thought proper to send a ship of war, with three distinguished citizens, along the southern coast, with instruction to touch at such ports as they may find most expedient for these purposes.——With the existing authorities, with those in the possession of, and exercising the sovereignty, must the communication be held; from them alone can redress for past injuries, committed by persons acting under them, be obtained; by them alone can the commission of the like, in future, be prevented.

Our relations with the other powers of Europe have experienced no essential change since the last session. In our intercourse with each, due attention continues to be paid to the protection of our commerce, and to every other object in which the United States are interested. A strong hope is entertained, that, by adhering to the maxims of a just, a candid, and friendly policy, we may long preserve amicable relations with all the powers of Europe, on conditions advantageous and honourable to our country.

With the Barbary states and Indian tribes our pacific relations have been preserved.

In calling your attention to the internal concerns of our country, the view which they exhibit is peculiarly gratifying. The payments which have been made into the treasury show the very productive state of the public revenue. After satisfying the appropriations made by law for the support of the civil government, and of the military and naval establishments embracing suitable provision for fortifications and for the gradual increase of the navy, paying the interest of the public debt, and extinguishing more than eighteen millions of the principal, within the present year, it is estimated that a balance of more than six millions of dollars will remain in the treasury on the first day of January, applicable to the current service of the ensuing year.

The payments into the treasury during the year one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, on account of imposts and tonnage, resulting principally from duties which have accrued in the present year, may be fairly estimated at twenty millions of dollars; internal revenues, at two millions five hundred thousand; public lands, at one million five hundred thousand; bank dividends and incidental receipts, at five hundred thousand; making, in the whole, twenty-four millions and five hundred thousand dollars.

The annual permanent expenditure for the support of the civil government, and of the army and navy, as now established by law, amounts to eleven millions eight hundred thousand dollars; and for the sinking fund, to ten millions; making in the whole twenty-one millions eight hundred thousand dollars; leaving an

annual excess of revenue beyond the expenditure of two millions seven hundred thousand dollars, exclusive of the balance estimated to be in the treasury on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen.

In the present state of the treasury, the whole of the Louisiana debt may be redeemed in the year one thousand eight hundred and nineteen; after which, if the public debt continues as it now is, above par, there will be annually about five millions of the sinking fund unexpended, until the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five, when the loan of one thousand eight hundred and twelve, and the stock created by funding treasury notes, will be redeemable.

It is also estimated that the Mississippi stock will be discharged during the year one thousand eight hundred and nineteen from the proceeds of the public lands assigned to that object; after which the receipts from those lands will annually add to the public revenue the sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars, making the permanent annual revenue amount to twenty-six millions of dollars, and leaving an annual excess of revenue, after the year one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, beyond the permanent authorized expenditure, of more than four millions of dollars.

By the last returns from the department of war, the militia force of the several States may be estimated at eight hundred thousand men, infantry, artillery, and cavalry. Great part of this force is armed, and measures are taken to arm the whole. An improvement in the organization and discipline of the militia is one of the great objects which claims the unremitted attention of Congress.

The regular force amounts nearly to the number required by law, and is stationed along the Atlantic and inland frontiers.

Of the naval force, it has been necessary to maintain strong squadrons in the Mediterranean, and in the Gulf of Mexico.

From several of the Indian tribes inhabiting the country bordering on Lake Erie, purchases have been made of lands, on conditions very favourable to the United States, and it is presumed, not less so to the tribes themselves. By these purchases, the Indian title, with moderate reservations, has been extinguished to the whole of the land within the limits of the state of Ohio, and to a great part of that in the Michigan territory and of the State of Indiana. From the Cherokee tribe a tract has been purchased, in the State of Georgia, and an arrangement made, by which, in exchange for lands beyond the Mississippi, a great part, if not the whole of the land belonging to that tribe, eastward of that river, in the States of North Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee, and in the Alabama Territory, will soon be acquired. By these acquisitions, and others, that may reasonably be expected soon to follow, we shall be enabled to extend our settlements from the inhabited parts of the state of Ohio, along Lake Erie, into the Michigan territory; and to connect our settlements by degrees, through the State of Indiana and the Illinois territory, to that of Missouri. A similar, and equally advantageous effect will soon be produced to the south through the whole extent of the states and territory which border on the waters emptying into the Mississippi and the Mobile. In this progress, which the rights of nature demand, and nothing can prevent, marking a growth rapid and gigantic, it is our duty to make new efforts for the preservation, improvement, and civilization of the native inhabitants. The hunter state can exist only in the vast, uncultivated desert. It yields to the more dense and compact form, and greater force, of civilized population; and of right it ought to yield, for the earth was given to mankind to support the greatest number of which it is capable, and no tribe or people have a right to withhold from the wants of others more than is necessary for their own support and comfort. It is gratifying to know, that the reservations of land made by the treaties with the tribes on Lake Erie, were made with a view to individual ownership among them, and to the cultivation of the soil by all, and that an annual stipend has been pledged to supply their other wants. It will merit the consideration of Congress, whether other provision, not stipulated by the treaty, ought to be made for these tribes, and for the advancement of the liberal and humane policy of the United States towards all the tribes within our limits, and more particularly for their improvement in the arts of civilized life.

Among the advantages incident to these purchases, and to those which have preceded, the security which may thereby be afforded to our inland frontiers is peculiarly important. With a strong barrier, consisting of our own people, thus planted on the Lakes, the Mississippi and the Mobile, with the protection to be derived from the regular force, Indian hostilities, if they do not altogether cease, will henceforth lose their terror. Fortifications in those quarters, to any extent, will not be necessary, and the expense attending them may be saved. A people accustomed to the use of fire-arms only, as the Indian tribes are, will shun even moderate works which are defended by cannon. Great fortifications will, therefore, be requisite only, in future, along the coast, and at some points in the interior, connected with it. On these will the safety of our towns, and the commerce of our great rivers, from the Bay of Fundy to the Mississippi, depend. On these, therefore, should the utmost attention, skill, and labour, be bestowed.

A considerable and rapid augmentation in the value of all the public lands, proceeding from these and other obvious causes, may henceforward be expected. The difficulties attending early emigrations, will be dissipated even in the most remote parts. Several new states have been admitted into our Union, to the west and south, and territorial governments, happily organized, established over every other portion in which there is vacant land for sale. In terminating Indian hostilities, as must soon be done, in a formidable shape at least, the emigration which has heretofore been great, will probably encrease, and the demand for land, and the augmentation in its value, be in proportion. The great increase of our population throughout the Union will alone produce an important effect, and in no quarter will it be so sensibly felt as in those in contemplation. The public lands are a public stock, which ought to be disposed of to the best advantage for the nation. The nation should, therefore, derive the profit proceeding from the continual rise in their value. Every encouragement should be given to the emigrants, consistent with a fair competition between them; but that competition should operate, in the first sale, to the advantage of the nation rather than of individuals. Great capitalists will derive all the benefit incident to their superior wealth, under any mode of sale which may be adopted. But if, looking forward to the rise in the value of the public lands, they should have the opportunity of amassing, at a low price, vast bodies in their

hands, the profit will accrue to them, and not to the public. They will also have the power, in that degree, to control the emigration and settlement in such manner as their opinion of their respective interests might dictate. I submit this subject to the consideration of Congress, that such further provision may be made in the sale of the public lands, with a view to the public interest, should any be deemed expedient, as in their judgment may be best adapted to the object.

When we consider the vast extent of territory within the United States, the great amount and value of its productions, the connexion of its parts, and other circumstances, on which their prosperity and happiness depend, we cannot fail to entertain a high sense of the advantage to be derived from the facility which may be afforded in the intercourse between them, by means of good roads and canals. Never did a country of such vast extent offer equal inducements to improvements of this kind, nor ever were consequences of such magnitude involved in them. As this subject was acted on by Congress at the last session, and there may be a disposition to revive it at the present, I have brought it into view, for the purpose of communicating my sentiments on a very important circumstance connected with it, with that freedom and candour which a regard for the public interest, and a proper respect for Congress, require. A difference of opinion has existed, from the first formation of our constitution to the present time, among our most enlightened and virtuous citizens, respecting the right of Congress to establish such a system of improvement. Taking into view the trust with which I am now honoured, it would be improper, after what has passed, that this discussion should be revived, with an uncertainty of my opinion respecting the right. Disregarding early impressions, I have bestowed on the subject all the deliberation which its great importance, and a just sense of my duty, required, and the result is, a settled conviction in my mind, that Congress do not possess the right. It is not contained in any of the specified powers granted to Congress; nor can I consider it incidental to, or a necessary mean, viewed on the most liberal scale, for carrying into effect any of the powers which are specifically granted. In communicating this result, I cannot resist the obligation which I feel to suggest to Congress the propriety of recommending to the States the adoption of an amendment to the constitution which shall give to Congress the right in question. In cases of doubtful construction, especially of such vital interest, it comports with the nature and origin of our institutions, and will contribute much to preserve them, to apply to our constituents for an explicit grant of the power. We may confidently rely, that if it appears to their satisfaction, t at the power is necessary, it will always be grant d. In this case I am happy to observe, that experience has afforded the most ample proof of its utility, and that the benign spirit of conciliation and harmony, which now manifests itself throughout our union, promises to such a recommendation the most prompt and favourable result. I think proper to suggest, also, in case this measure is adopted, that it be recommended to the States to include, in the amendment sought, a right in Congress to institute, likewise, seminaries of learning, for the all-important purpose of diffusing knowledge among our fellow citizens throughout the United States. Our manufactories will require the continued attention of Congress. The capital employed in them is considerable, and the knowledge acquired in the machinery and fabric of all the most useful manufactures, is of great value. Their preservation, which depends on due encouragement, is connected with the high interests of the nation.

Although the progress of the public buildings has been as favourable as circumstances have permitted, it is to be regretted that the Capitol is not yet in a state to receive you—There is good cause to presume that the two wings, the only parts as yet commenced, will be prepared for that purpose at the next session. The time seems now to have arrived, when this subject may be deemed worthy the attention of Congress, on a scale adequate to national purposes. The completion of the middle building will be necessary to the convenient accommodation of Congress, of the committees, and various offices belonging to it. It is evident that the other public buildings are altogether insufficient for the accommodation of the several executive departments, some of whom are much crowded, and even subjected to the necessity of obtaining it in private buildings, at some distance from the head of the department, and with inconvenience to the management of the public business. Most nations have taken an interest and a pride in the improvement and ornament of their metropolis, and none were more conspicuous in that respect than the ancient Republics. The policy which dictated the establishment of a permanent residence for the national government, and the spirit in which it was commenced and has been prosecuted, show that such improvement was thought worthy the attention of this nation. Its central position, between the northern and southern extremes of our Union, and its approach to the west, at the head of a great navigable river, which interlocks with the western waters, prove the wisdom of the councils which established it. Nothing appears to be more reasonable and proper, than that convenient accommodations should be provided, on a well-digested plan, for the heads of the several departments, and for the Attorney-General; and it is believed that the public ground in the city, applied to those objects, will be found amply sufficient. I submit this subject to the consideration of Congress, that such further provision may be made in it, as to them may seem proper.

In contemplating the happy situation of the United States, our attention is drawn, with peculiar interest, to the surviving officers and soldiers of our revolutionary army, who so eminently contributed, by their services, to lay its foundation. Most of those very meritorious citizens have paid the debt of nature, and gone to repose. It is believed that among the survivors there are some not provided for by existing laws, who are reduced to indigence, and even to real distress. These men have a claim on the gratitude of their country, and it will do honour to their country to provide for them. The lapse of a few years more, and the opportunity will be for ever lost; indeed, so long already has been the interval, that the number to be benefitted by any provision which may be made, will not be great.

It appearing in a satisfactory manner that the revenue arising from imposts and tonnage, and from the sale of the public lands, will be fully adequate to the support of the civil government, of the present military and naval establishments, including the annual augmentation of the latter, to the extent provided for; to the payment of the interest on the public debt, and to the extinguishment of it at the time authorized, without the aid of the internal taxes; I consider it my duty to re-

commend to Congress their repeal. To impose taxes, when the public exigencies require them is an obligation of the most sacred character, especially with a free people. The faithful fulfilment of it is among the highest proofs of their virtue, and capacity for self-government. To dispense with taxes, when it may be done with perfect safety, is equally the duty of their representatives. In this instance we have the satisfaction to know that they were imposed when the demand was imperious, and have been sustained with exemplary fidelity. I have to add, that however gratifying it may be to me, regarding the prosperous and happy condition of our country, to recommend the repeal of these taxes at this time, I shall nevertheless be attentive to events, and, should any future emergency occur, be not less prompt to suggest such measures and burthens as may then be requisite and proper.

JAMES MONROE.

Wednesday, Dec. 3. Mr. Barbour, from a committee appointed on the subject of the State of Mississippi, reported a resolution for its admission into the Union; which was read the third time, passed and sent to the other house for concurrence.

Thursday, Dec. 4. A letter was laid before the Senate, by David Holmes, governor of the State of Mississippi, inclosing the constitution of that State.

Monday, Dec. 8. The President of the Senate communicated the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury. We have room only for the following abstract of this important document.

The Secretary calculates the receipts of the Treasury during the year 1817, at $33,075, 984, which added to the balance in the Treasury on the 1st of January, 1817, makes an aggregate sum of $44,371 577.

The payments into the treasury, during the three first quarters of the year, are estimated to amount to $27,095, 984 14; viz. Customs $21,732,068 22; internal revenue and direct tax, $3,480,173 43; public lands, exclusive of those in the State of Mississippi and the Alabama, $1,326,077 44; postage and incidental receipts $26,913 93; payments into the treasury, $530,751 13.

The application of this sum, for the year 1817, is estimated as follows, viz.

To the 30th Sept. the payments have amounted to $32,710,002 98; viz:—

Civil, diplomatic, and miscellaneous expenses, exclusive of three hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars paid to the State of Georgia, from the proceeds of the Mississippi lands, $2,798,248 75.

Military service, including arrearage, $7, 105,316 90.

Naval service, $2,044,474 25.

Public debt, exclusive of three millions five hundred and ninety-two thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven dollars and sixty cents of treasury notes, which have been cancelled in due course of settlement, $20, 761,462 98.

During the fourth quarter, it is estimated that the payments will amount to $5,660,000.

Civil, diplomatic, and miscellaneous expenses, $660,000.

Military service, $1,110,000.

Naval service, $1,300,000.

Public debt to the first of January, 1818, inclusive, $2,650,000.

Making the aggregate amount of $38,370, 002, 88.

And leaving, on that day, exclusive of eight millions, 632,697 dollars and 70 cents in treasury notes, which are in a train of settlement, in order to be cancelled, a balance in the treasury of $6,001,575 88.

The public debt unredeemed on the 1st day of January 1817 amounted to $115,807, 805. Between the 1st of January and the 1st of September there was added to the public debt by the funding of treasury notes, $1,097,315, making an aggregate amount on that day of $116,905,121.

During the same period there was purchased and redeemed of the public debt, including five hundred and fifty thousand dollars of temporary loans, the sum of $16,993,275 50.

Which, deducted from the amount of the public debt, last stated, leaves, unredeemed, on the first day of October, 1817, the amount of $99,911,845 41.

This amount will be reduced by the 1st of January, 1818, to $98,869,096.

The amount of the public debt purchased and redeemed in the year 1817, amounts to $18,036,023.

The old six per cent stock will be redeemed in the course of the year 1818. The Louisiana debt which becomes redeemable on the 21st of October next, might be redeemed at that time, did not the terms of the convention, which require that it shall be paid by 'annual *instalments* of not less than three millions,' seem to preclude the right of discharging it at once. It may all be redeemed by the 21st of October, 1819.

After the redemption of the Louisiana stock, there is no part of the principal of the public debt redeemable at the will of the government until the 1st day of January, 1825, except the 5 per cent stock subscribed to the bank of the United States. As the commissioners of the sinking fund are not authorized to redeem the five per cent stock, the permanent annual appropriation of 10,000,000 of dollars, from the year 1819 to 1825, under the existing laws, can only be applied to the payment of the interest of the public debt, and to the gradual reimbursement of the principal of the six per cent deferred stock; and will leave, during that period, an annual surplus of nearly five millions of dollars.

This interesting report, after taking a full survey of the national finances, concludes as follows:

According to these views the permanent annual revenue may be estimated to amount to $24,525,000, viz:—Customs, $20,000,000; internal duties, $2,500,000; public lands, exclusive of the Mississippi and Alabama lands, $1,500,000; bank dividends at 7 per cent $490,000; postage and incidental receipts $35,000. And the payments into the Treasury during the year 1818 may be estimated at the same amount. To which add the balance estimated to be in the Treasury on the

first day of January, 1818, $6,000,000. Making together the sum of $30,525,000.

The probable authorized demands upon the Treasury during the year 1818, are estimated to amount to $21,946,351 74, viz:—Civil, miscellaneous, diplomatic, and foreign intercourse, $2,069,343 29; military services, including an arrearage of 500,000 dollars, $6,265,132 25; naval service, including one million of dollars for the gradual increase of the navy, $3,611,376 20; public debt, $10,000,000. Which, being deducted from the amount estimated to be received into the treasury, including the balance on the 1st of January, 1818, leaves, on the 1st of January, 1819, a balance in the treasury of 8,578,648 dollars 26 cents, which, however, will be applied to the redemption of the Louisiana stock, under the provisions of the act for the redemption of the public debt, passed the 3d day of March, 1817, as far as those provisions will admit.

Mr. Barbour gave notice that he should, on to-morrow, ask leave to bring in a resolution proposing to the several States an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, on the subject of internal improvements.

Tuesday, Dec. 9. Mr. Barbour introduced a resolution to amend the Constitution, agreeably to notice given yesterday.

Mr. Hawley, Pastor of St. John's Church, Washington, was elected Chaplain of the Senate.

Wednesday, Dec. 10. The resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Barbour, for an amendment of the Constitution, was read a second time, and referred to Messrs. Barbour, King, Lacock, Macon, and Eppes

Thursday, Dec. 11. The Senators from the State of Mississippi appeared and took their seats this day; the President of the United States having notified his approbation of the resolution of Congress, for the admission of the State of Mississippi into the Union.

Friday, Dec. 12. The President of the Senate communicated two memorials of officers of the Navy and of the Marine Corps, then serving in the Mediterranean, remonstrating in strong terms against the treatment received by Captain Heath of the Marine Corps, from Commodore Perry, and the proceedings thereon, and in one or two other cases.

Mr. Daggett submitted for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of passing a law on the subject of bankruptcy; and, if they judge it expedient, to report a bill for that purpose: also, that the aforesaid committee inquire into the expediency of further provision by law for the punishment of offences committed in places within the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States: also, into the necessity of further defining piracy, and other offences committed on the high seas, and into any defects existing in the laws of the United States for the punishment of crimes and offences.

The bill for the abolition of the internal duties was received from the House of Representatives, read twice, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Monday, Dec. 15. The following motions were laid on the table for consideration. By Mr. Troup.—

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before the Senate such information as he may possess, touching the execution of so much of the first article of the late treaty of peace and amity between his Britannic majesty and the United States of America, as relates to the restitution of slaves, and which has not heretofore been communicated.

By Mr. Barbour.—

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to the Senate such information as he may possess, and which the public interest will permit him to disclose, relative to our pending negotiation with Spain.

The bill from the House of Representatives to abolish the internal duties, was reported by Mr. Campbell, from the committee on finance, with a few verbal amendments, which were agreed to, and the bill ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Tuesday, Dec. 16. The engrossed bill from the House of Representatives, for abolishing the internal duties, was read the third time as amended by the Senate, passed, and returned to the House for concurrence in the amendments.

The resolutions offered yesterday by Mr. Troup, and by Mr. Barbour, respectively, were successively taken up and adopted.

Wednesday, Dec. 17. No business of importance was transacted this day.

Thursday, Dec. 18. No subject of moment was brought before the Senate this day.

Friday, Dec. 19. The Senate was occupied with subjects of local or private interest.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuesday Dec. 2d. At 12 o'clock the President's Message was received and read.

Wednesday Dec. 3d. On motion of Mr. Taylor, of New-York, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the state of the Union, Mr. Smith of Md. being called to the chair.

The President's message was the subject of consideration.

Mr. Taylor moved a series of resolutions referring to different committees the various parts of the Message. The first resolution offered was the following:

Resolved. That so much of the message of the President of the United States, as relates to the subject of foreign affairs, and to our commercial intercourse with British colonial ports, be referred to a select committee.

This resolution having been read for consideration, Mr. Clay (the Speaker) moved to amend the same by adding to the end thereof the following words:

"And that the said committee be instructed to inquire whether any, and if any, what

provisions of law are necessary to ensure to the American colonies of Spain a just observance of the duties incident to the neutral relations in which the United States stand, in the existing war between them and Spain."

Mr. Clay supported this amendment by some spirited remarks in regard to the nature of the struggle in which the Spanish provinces were engaged, and the attitude which it became this country to sustain in regard to them. He called to the remembrance of the House our own situation in 1778 and 1789—the different treatment we had received even from 'inexorable legitimacy,' to that which we exhibited towards kindred republics. If we did not feel ourselves authorized to afford aid to a cause which deserved our wishes for its success, he trusted we should at least endeavour to avoid the appearance of hostility to the efforts of liberty in any quarter.

Mr. Sergeant rose, in consequence of an appeal to him to explain the circumstances under which the U. S. Court had interfered to detain certain British officers about embarking from Philadelphia to join the patriots in South America.

Thursday, Dec. 4. The standing committees as appointed by the Speaker, in pursuance of the order of the house, were announced.

Monday, Dec. 8th. An interesting discussion took place on a motion made by Mr. Rhea to call on the Executive for information in regard to the proceedings of certain persons who have established themselves at Amelia Island, and in regard to a similar establishment at Galvezton.

Mr. Rhea, Mr. Nelson, of Va. Mr. Miller, Mr. Johnson, of Ky. and Mr. Harrison advocated the resolution. Mr. Forsyth, Mr. Robertson, and Mr. Holmes opposed it on various grounds, but not with a view to suppress the information required, which they contended was virtually called for by a previous resolution of the House.

Mr. Johnson of Ky. reported a bill authorizing a commutation of soldiers' bounty lands, for cash, at the rate of $1 40 per acre, which was twice read and committed.

On motion of Mr. Nelson, of Va. the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the Resolution from the Senate for admitting the State of Mississippi into the Union. The resolution was agreed to, reported to the House, read a third time, and passed.

Tuesday, Dec. 9. Mr. Lowndes, from the committee of Ways and Means, reported a Bill to abolish the Internal Duties. [The repeal to take place from and after the 31st day of the present month.] The bill was twice read and committed.

Mr. Johnson proposed a series of resolutions in relation to the Military Establishment —to provide for the widows and orphans of the soldiers who where killed in battle or died in service during the late war, to grant lands to the disbanded officers of the late army, to establish three additional military academies, to organize a corps of invalids, to reduce the standing army to 8000, &c. &c. These resolutions were received and referred to a committee of the whole House.

Mr. Whitman offered a resolution to instruct the committee of commerce and manufactures to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for apprehending and securing foreign seamen deserting from foreign vessels in the ports of the U. S.

Wednesday, Dec. 10*th.* Mr. Forsyth offered for consideration the following resolution, to obtain a decision on a question raised by a memorial yesterday presented, contesting the election of a member from Ohio, and which Mr. F. considered of great importance:

Resolved, That the committee of elections be instructed to inquire and report what persons, elected to serve in the House of Representatives, have accepted or held offices under the government of the United States since the fourth day of March, 1817, and how far their right to a seat in this House is affected by it.

The adoption of this resolution was warmly opposed by Mr. Taylor, of N. Y. and Mr. Johnson, of Ky. and was also opposed by Mr. Seybert, Mr. Livermore, and Mr. W. P. Maclay, and was supported by Mr. Forsyth.

It was opposed as casting an imputation upon the House, and as instituting a general and vexatious inquisition. It was advocated by the mover as the most direct means of putting the committee of elections in the possession of facts. He had understood that there were ten or eleven gentlemen in the House who came within the scope of the resolution—there might be more,—had he known all the individuals he would not have hesitated to insert their names in the resolution. He did not mean to impeach the conduct of gentlemen who had taken their seats under such circumstances, they had doubtless satisfied themselves of the correctness of so doing, but the decision of an important constitutional question devolved upon the House.

On taking the question on the resolution, their appeared 85 in favour of it, and 85 against it. It was adopted by the casting vote of the Speaker.

The report of the Committee of Ways and Means, and the bill for abolishing internal duties were taken up in Committee of the whole, Mr. Desha being called to the Chair.

The bill was advocated by Mr. Lowndes, the Chairman of the Committee which reported it. and Mr. Williams. Mr. Tallmadge moved to amend the bill, so as to except the duties on *sales* at *auction*, from the general repeal proposed. This amendment was supported by the mover, and by Mr. Storrs, and opposed by Mr. Whitman, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Clay, (the Speaker.)

Some other amendments were proposed and lost.

The Committee rose and reported their agreement to the bill without amendment.

Thursday, Dec. 11. On motion of Mr. Holmes, of Massachusetts.

Resolved, That the committee on Roads

and Canals inquire into the expediency of providing by law for constructing a navigable canal to unite the waters of Lake Michigan with the waters of those of the Mississippi.

That they also inquire into the expediency of providing for constructing a navigable canal to unite the waters of the Tennessee with those of the Tombigbee.

That they also inquire into the expediency of providing for improving the navigation of the Tennessee.

Mr. Bassett, of Virginia, submitted a proposition to amend the rules so as to dispense with the previous question of *consideration*, on any motion submitted to the House.

On motion of Mr. Spencer, of New-York, the committee on the judiciary were instructed to inquire whether any, and, if any, what legal provisions are necessary to prescribe the effect which the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of one State shall have in the courts of any other State; and also to inquire what provisions by law are necessary to ensure a more prompt publication of the laws of the United States, and a more speedy and general distribution of them.

The engrossed bill for a repeal of the internal taxes was read a third time.

On the question "shall the bill pass?" Mr. Hopkinson, of Pennsylvania, rose to express his disapprobation of a course, which he was aware it would be useless to oppose. The reasoning of gentlemen who favoured a repeal of taxes, appeared to him fallacious. It proceeded upon the supposition that we were to enjoy an uninterrupted peace. He considered this doubtful. Were the position to be assumed as true, where was the use of augmenting the navy, or of supporting a standing army? If we could not confide in pacific prospects so far as to dispense with military and naval armaments, it was folly to make our revenue wholly dependent on a source which must in a great measure fail in the event of war. Besides, if we had really an excess of revenue, at this time, and no adverse change to apprehend—if taxes were too prolific, and some of them must be repealed; he should prefer to remove the impost upon salt, to reduce the tonnage, and to diminish the duties upon tea, coffee, sugar, and other necessary articles of consumption; to destroying a system of internal taxes which had with such difficulty been brought into operation, and on which alone we could rely in case of emergency. But he had been once deceived by a flattering picture of an overflowing treasury, and could not but fear that there was some delusion in our present golden anticipations.

Mr. Baldwin of Penn. could not but remark, upon the singular appearance it would exhibit, if Congress were now to repeal on the ground of a redundant revenue, those taxes which were laid but three years ago to retrieve a sinking credit. The inconvenience which this repeal was to guard against, was not yet felt, and notwithstanding the sanguine estimates on which the bill was founded, might not be experienced. He had not been allowed time to examine the statement of the Treasury department to his satisfaction, but he thought he perceived some inconsistency in it. He did not believe that the public good or the public will required the repeal of the internal taxes, but if gentlemen, who were pressing forward the measure, thought they were running the race of popularity, he should not impede them.

Mr. Sergeant of Penn. had no idea of entering upon the race for popularity that had been spoken of. On all occasions it was proper to presume the motives of members of that House fair; it was injurious to question them where they were borne out by the weight of argument. The system of taxation which it was now endeavoured to uphold had already been broken in upon, and its symmetry destroyed. A few fragments of it remained, which could not too soon be removed. A great proportion of the taxes which it was proposed to repeal were extremely objectionable; and even if the revenue did not warrant the repeal, he would still vote for the bill, and leave the deficit to be provided for in some more equal and equitable manner. He adduced various instances of the oppressive operation of these taxes. He not only considered it unnecessary as it regarded the national wants, and prejudicial as it regarded the national industry to continue them, but he viewed it as pernicious in another light; the accumulation of a surplus in the Treasury would not be permitted, the possession of an exuberant income would lead to an improvident expenditure.

Mr. Holmes of Massachusetts was in favour of the bill. He thought these taxes should only be resorted to in cases of absolute necessity; and to enable the people to meet them at such times, they ought be remitted the moment that necessity had passed away. It was only as temporary burdens, indispensably requisite, that they would be submitted to with cheerfulness.

Mr. Barbour of Va. Mr. Johnson of Va. Mr. Pitkin of Conn. and Mr Smith of N. C. spoke also in favour of the bill.

The passage of the bill was decided 161 to 5.

Friday, Dec. 12th. Mr. Hopkinson, of Pennsylvania, from the committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to establish an Uniform System of Bankruptcy throughout the United States; which was twice read and committed.

Mr. Bloomfield, of New-Jersey, from the committee to whom was referred so much of the President's Message as relates to the surviving Revolutionary Patriots, reported in part, a bill concerning certain surviving officers and soldiers of the late Revolutionary Army.

[This bill provides that every commissioned and non-commissioned officer or soldier, who had served in the army during the war which terminated in the treaty of peace with Great Britain in 1783, and reduced to indigence, or by age, sickness, or any other cause, may be unable to procure subsistance

by manual labour, shall receive half pay during life, equal to the half of the monthly pay allowed to his grade of service during the revolutionary war—provided, that no pension thus allowed to a commissioned officer shall exceed the half pay of a lieutenant-colonel.]

This bill was twice read and committed.

The motion submitted by Mr. Basset of Va. to amend the rules of the House was taken up and agreed to. [The question of *consideration*, which has heretofore been a matter of much contention in the House, in the days of party conflict, is thus expunged from the rules of the House.]

Monday, Dec. 15th. Mr. Tucker of Va. from the committee to whom was referred so much of the message of the President of the United States as relates to the subject of internal improvements, made a long and elaborate report, concluding with the following resolution:

Resolved, That, in order to promote and give security to the internal commerce among the several States; to facilitate the safe and expeditious transportation of the mails by the improvement of post roads, with the assent of the respective States; to render more easy and less expensive the means and provisions necessary for the common defence, by the construction of military roads, with the like assent of the respective States; and for such other internal improvements as may be within the constitutional powers of the general government, it is expedient that the sum to be paid to the United States by the 20th section of the act to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States, and the dividends which shall arise from their shares in its capital stock, be constituted as a fund for internal improvement.

The report was read and referred to a committee of the whole.

A message was received from the President of the United States, transmitting in compliance with the request of the House, the information in possession of the executive, in regard to the establishments at Amelia Island and Galvezton.

Mr. Robertson, of Louisiana, offered the following resolution to the House:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the exercise of the right of expatriation; and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. R. explained his motives in making this proposition at this time. He wished to see the question decided by the proper tribunal, and he thought it might now be discussed and determined dispassionately. The resolution was agreed to without opposition.

Mr. Harrison of Ohio, moved a resolution for instructing the committee on military affairs, to inquire into the expediency of continuing pensions granted to the widows and orphans of officers and soldiers who were killed or wounded in the late war, for a term of five years beyond their expiration by the present law. Mr. H. supported this resolution by a feeling and eloquent appeal to the sensibilities of the House, and the justice of the nation. The resolution was adopted without a division.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Bassett in the chair, on the bill for the commutation of soldiers' pay.

A debate of some length arose on this bill, and particularly on its details, which did not, however, result in any final decision.

It was supported by Mr. Johnson of Ky. Chairman of the Committee on Military affairs, and, with some modifications, by Mr. Clay, (the speaker,) and was opposed by Mr. Holmes of Mass. Mr. Storrs of New-York, Mr. Smith of Maryland, and Mr. Claggett of New Hampshire, principally on the ground of its opening a new field for speculators rather than benefitting those for whom it was designed to legislate.

Tuesday, Dec. 16. Mr. Rhea of Tennessee, offered for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on pensions and revolutionary claims be instructed to inquire into the expediency of suspending, for one year, so much of the act, entitled "an act making further provision for the support of the public credit and for the redemption of the public debt," passed the third day of March, 1795, as bars from settlement or allowance, certificates, commonly called loan office and final settlement certificates, and indents of interest.

Mr. R. supported this resolution by some feeling and pertinent remarks. It was adopted without opposition.

On motion of Mr. Whitman, of Mass. it was

Resolved, That the committee on pensions and revolutionary claims be directed to inquire into the expediency of continuing the pensions granted to invalids of the army who served in the late war, in case of their decease before the expiration of the term of five years from the time of granting the same, to the widow or children of such deceased invalid, if any he has left or shall leave, to the end of the said term.

Mr. Wendover offered a resolution for the appointment of a Committee to inquire into the expediency of altering the national flag; which was adopted.

The House resumed the consideration, in committee of the whole, Mr. Bassett in the chair, of the bill for the commutation of soldiers' pay;

The question being on striking out the first section of the bill—

A debate of much length ensued, which resulted in no final decision of the ques-

tion; before coming to which, the committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Wednesday, Dec. 17. On motion of Mr. Holmes of Mass.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of providing, by law, for the pay of the members of the Senate and House of Representatives, and the deputies from the territories of the United States—and that the said committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

The House then again resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Bassett in the chair, on the bill, to provide for commuting the bounty lands of the soldiers of the late army—the motion to strike out the first section being still under consideration.

The debate was resumed, and continued to a late hour, in which Messrs. Ball, Colston, Livermore, Storrs, Holmes, of M. and Beecher spoke against the bill, and Messrs. Anderson, of Ky. Baldwin, Harrison, Clay, and Johnson, of Ky. advocated it.

Mr. Clay offered a substitute by way of amendment, embracing various provisions varying in many points from the original bill. The amendment having been read—

The committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again—the House having previously ordered Mr. Clay's amendment to be printed.

The amendments of the Senate to the bill to abolish the Internal Taxes were taken up and agreed to.

Thursday, Dec. 18. The debate on the bill for the commutation of soldiers' pay, was resumed in committee of the whole, after various propositions, the sum to be paid in lieu of the 160 acres of land was fixed at one hundred dollars. The question being stated, "shall the bill pass?" On motion of Mr. Spencer of N. Y. the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Friday, Dec. 19. On motion of Mr. Harrison, of Ohio, the following rule was adopted:

The Speaker shall have power to admit persons to seats in the hall, during the sitting of the house, who belong to such Legislatures of foreign governments as are in amity with the United States.

The House resolved itself into a Committee on the commutation bill, which was reported with amendments to the House, and ordered to lie on the table, and to be printed.

The House again resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, on the bill concerning a provision for the survivors of the revolutionary war. Some debate arose in regard to the scope of the measure, and several amendments were proposed; but no question was taken on the amendments, when the Committee agreed to rise and report progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Art. 12. DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

THE expenses attending the maintenance of the State-Prison in Charlestown, amounted during the last year to $48,913 50. The receipts arising from various kinds of labour performed by the convicts during the same period, amounted to $34,328 50, leaving a balance of $14,595; against the State. But the stock on hand, in September, 1817, with some additional items to be credited, amounted to $16,729 54; which sum, deducted from the amount of the above balance, and the stock on hand a year ago, amounting to $11,797 40, will leave only the sum of $9,652 86, as the actual cost of the prison to the Commonwealth during the year ending September, 1817. The average number of convicts during the year has been 300, employed in various mechanical labours: the deaths amounted to 9—the number pardoned to 27—the number whose term of confinement expired to 72. The new convicts received into the prison during the year were 133.

An extensive Asylum for the Insane has been established within the limits of Charlestown, in an open, airy and healthy situation, considerably removed from the town. It is not yet completed, but will be ready for the reception of patients, it is expected, early next summer.

The farmers in the District of Maine are turning their attention to the cultivation of wheat, and it is anticipated that the time will soon arrive, when Boston and the other sea-board towns of the Commonwealth will derive their full supply of flour from the mills on the Kennebeck and Penobscot. The scarcity, in the year 1816, was not because wheat would not grow, but because very little was sown; and this year, the abundance is such, that one contract has been made for the sale of 2000 bushels, to be shipped from the Kennebeck to Baltimore. As a specimen of what the soil of the District of Maine can produce, it is stated that Mr. Daniel Hussy, of Fairfax, raised, on one acre and twenty rods of ground, in the

summer of 1816, sixty-four bushels and an half of wheat. The land had been ploughed once, in July, the year before, and cross-ploughed in the fall; in the spring of 1816 it was ploughed twice before sowing, and two bushels and an half sowed on the piece: it had been used as a yard for cattle for two summers before, but had not been otherwise manured.

Charles Bulfinch, Esq. of Boston, has been appointed, by the President of the United States, Architect of the public buildings at Washington.

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A cow, raised and fatted by Nathaniel Gray, Esq. of Little-Compton, has been recently killed in Bristol, weighing as follows: The four quarters, 927 lbs.—Tallow, 113 lbs. Hide, 96 lbs.—Total 1136 lbs.

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LOUISIANA.

During the year ending with September 1817, there entered at the port of New Orleans 523 vessels, making a total tonnage 100,810 tons. Within the same period 510 vessels cleared, the tonnage of which amounted to 98,831 tons. The vessels employed in the river-trade that left New-Orleans in the above space of time, were 1115 in number, giving a tonnage of 19,012 tons; and there arrived, in that time, 1500 flat boats, 500 barges, and 24 steam-boats, freighted with the following articles, the produce of the western states and territories, viz: Apples 5000 bbls; bacon and hams 13,000 cwt.; bagging 2500 pieces; bark quercitron 800 hhds.; beef 1700 bbls.; beer 300 do.; butter 800 do.; candles 150 boxes; cider 500 bbls.; cotton 65,000 bales; cordage 4300 coils; corn 140,000 bushels; cornmeal 4000 bbls.; flour 190,000 bbls.; ginseng 1200 do.; hemp yarns 200 reels; hides 4000; hogs 500; horses 350; lead 7000 cwt.; linen 2500 pieces; lard 3000 bbls and kegs; paper 400 reams; peltries 400 packs; pork 17,000 bbls.; potatoes 5000 bushels; soap 2000 boxes; tallow 200 cwt.; tobacco 28,000 hhds.; do. manufactured 1500 bbls.; do. 3000 carrots; whiskey 250,000 gallons; wheat 95,000 bushels; bear-skins 3000; shot 600 M.; staves 125 M., besides a quantity of horned cattle, castings, grind-stones, muskets, merchandise, pacan nuts, peas, and beans.

The schedule of the above produce is independent of what is called Lower Louisiana Proper; consisting of corn, indigo, molasses, masts and spars, planks, gunpowder, rice, sugar, shingles, soap, taffia, tallow, timber, beeswax, &c. which articles are generally brought to market in planter's crafts, or taken from off the plantations by foreign-bound vessels.

It is stated from New Orleans, that there were brought into that market, during the year ending with September, 28,000 hhds. tobacco, 190,000 bbls. flour, 65,000 bales cotton, and 250,000 gallons whiskey.

Died.—At New-Orleans, on the 23d November, with the liver complaint, William C. C. Claiborne, Esq. late governor of Louisiana, and recently chosen senator of the United States, from that State.

At the entrance of Bayou Lake, in the Attacapas, in this State, was drowned, on the 1st of October, Captain Guy Champlin. He was a native of New-London, in the State of Connecticut. During the late war he commanded the private armed schooner General Armstrong, and the brig Warrior. In both vessels he had several severe engagements, in one of which he received a musket ball through his shoulder; but always came off conqueror.

KENTUCKY.

The Court of the United States, during its last session at Frankfort, in this State, declared the sale of lands, for the direct tax of 1798, void.

OHIO.

In the town of Dayton, one day in the early part of November, a large mastiff and a very small cur dog entered the river at the fording a little below the bridge. The large dog soon reached the opposite shore, but the current being very strong, the small dog drifted a considerable distance, and returned to the shore he had left. He then went up the river some distance, got upon a log, which lay in the water, as if intending to make a second attempt to cross, but his courage seemed to fail and he began to howl

The large dog seeing his distress, recrossed the river, pushed him into the stream, and plunging in at his side, they both proceeded to cross the river again. They had gone little more than half way over, when the small dog got entangled in some brush, and was in danger of being drowned; the large dog, perceiving his situation, seized him by the neck and conveyed him safe to the shore.

The waters of the Ohio, during the last autumn, have risen forty feet, perpendicular height, and brought down many emigrants.

INDIANA.

In the town of Madison, a lady was delivered of four fine children at a birth, two of each sex, and all in good health.

MICHIGAN TERRITORY.

The exports of this territory, in the articles of cider-apples and white-fish, have amounted, during the past season, to $60,000.

In the Detroit Gazette of the 24th ult. we find the following given as the prices current: Flour 9 to 10 dollars—pork 26 to 30 dollars—beef 6 dollars—cheese 20 cents—eggs 25 cents per dozen—fowls 75 cents the pair—wood 4 dollars the cord—cider 3 dollars the barrel—wheat and corn 1 dollar 50 cents the bushel—potatoes 50 cents the bushel.

MISSOURI TERRITORY.

The *Emigrant*, a newspaper printed at St. Louis, of the 4th ult. contains the following paragraph:

"It is said that living mammoths have lately been seen near the Rocky Mountains."

It is stated in the same paper, that one hundred dwelling houses have been erected in St. Louis this season.

ART. 13. EDITORS' CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of the American Monthly Magazine.

I HAVE lately read the following article in Holme's American Annals, vol. 2, p. 505, "In 1802, the German plan of disposing of books, by means of literary fairs was adopted in the United States." I should feel much gratified to hear from some of your correspondents, whether the above article is correct, as I must own that the fact is new to me. If any one can tell where such a plan was adopted, how long it lasted, whether it lasts yet, or has failed, and why it did fail, what regulations were adopted in regard to it, what prevents its revival and success, &c. he will highly oblige those who feel an interest in American Literature.

BIBLIOPHILUS.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

In my communication of last month, by an oversight, A. P. in the several examples for finding the latitude by spherics, was called the complement of the declination. It should have been termed the polar distance, as the sun at that time was more than 90° from the elevated pole.

During the months of August, September, and October last, while employed in taking observations for correcting the time-keeper, and finding the latitude, I took besides, about fifty observations of the sun's magnetic and true azimuths, in order to determine the variation of the compass. By comparing these, the magnetic variation on the 18th of October was 4° 51′ 27″ W. But the observations having been made under some disadvantages, I do not feel confident of their correctness. It appears, however, very probable, from their general tendency, that it is not less than 4° 50′, and not more than 5°. The foregoing is respectfully submitted to the public, in the hope that some person or persons will undertake to determine the magnetic variations with accuracy.

M. NASH.

New-York, December 15, 1817.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

Having read a communication in your last review on the progress and state of Natural Science in the United States, I observed in the remarks on *Collections of Minerals*, you notice, among others, *that* of Colonel Gibbs, in the Museum of the Historical Society of New-York.

Having often visited and examined the Collection you name, permit me to say, that the collection now deposited in the department of the Historical Society belongs to, and has been there placed by J. G. Bogert, Esq. of N. Y. and that Dr. Mitchill has also contributed very considerably to its value by the specimens he has laid upon the shelves.

This communication is not intended to take from the merit of Colonel Gibbs, who has also recently deposited some specimens, but to correct a statement, which if permitted to pass unnoticed, would rob others of the credit due to them.

A. B.

ART. 14. MONTHLY CATALOGUE OF NEW PUBLICATIONS, WITH CRITICAL REMARKS.

THE Knight of St. John, a Romance, by Miss Anna Maria Porter, Author of the Recluse of Norway, &c. &c. &c. New-York, James Eastburn and Co. 2 vols. 12mo. p. 486.

This is a tale of the Sixteenth Century. Giovanni, the Knight of Malta, who gives title to the work, is not, however, the hero of the story, according to the common acceptation of this epithet among novel readers. Cesario is the personage best entitled to this appellation, as he is the *lover* whose hopes and fears and fate are meant to awaken a tender concern, and whose eventual prospects of connubial felicity crown all our anxiety. Indeed it would be contrary to immemorial usage to make a *novel hero* of one condemned, like our Knight of St. John, by the vows of his order, to perpetual celibacy! Nevertheless he had loved, and had been disappointed, and by this means had been rendered a philosopher. But a spice of romance still tinctured his character, and he gave a loose to that enthusiasm in friendship which he had found could not be safely indulged in love. Cesario was the Pylades for whom our Orestes conceived this sublime sentiment, and to inspire whom with a mutual regard he strove with a perseverance rarely exhibited in the cultivation of softer attachments. He had many obstacles to contend with. His father had ruined the father of Cesario, by successfully prosecuting an antiquated claim to an estate which had been illegally alienated by his ancestors to those of Adimari, and the latter had died heart-broken in consequence. Cesario therefore regarded Giovanni as the son of his father's murderer, and repulsed with filial indignation every attempt he made to obtain his confidence. Circumstances gradually compelled him to believe in the disinterested sincerity of Giovanni, and having himself been the instrument of rescuing, unwittingly, this hereditary foe from a premature grave,

he admitted at last a kindly feeling towards one whom he had laid under an obligation for his life, to expand into the reciprocation of esteem and affection. Jealousy on the part of Cesario for a while disunite them; but on finding that his mistress was unworthy of his regard, and his friend innocent of encouraging that preference which she had immodestly discovered for him, he expiates his injurious suspicions by a pilgrimage to redeem Giovanni from captivity, into which he had been carried by the Moors. In pursuing this aim, Cesario discovers the sister of Giovanni, a widow of nineteen, also in bondage, and wins her love in the garb of a slave. He ransoms the sister and enables the brother to escape. The author leaves him in the anticipation of attaining the summit of human bliss.

A moral is to be drawn from the tale, which is briefly this—that Providence orders all things for the best to those who confide in him without remitting their own exertions, and that what we are apt in the impetuosity of the moment to deem the greatest calamities often prove in the event the happiest occurrences. Of the author's style we can only say that it is bad enough, but not worse than that of her previous productions which have obtained a measure of popularity. We did not read this work for pleasure, and did not derive much pleasure from reading it. It is certainly harmless, and those who can find either information or amusement in it, will not have wasted their time in its perusal.

E.

Inaugural Address, delivered in the Chapel of the University at Cambridge, November 5th, 1817. By Levi Frisbie, A. M. Alford Professor of Natural Religion, Moral Philosophy, and Civil Polity, in Harvard University. Cambridge, University Press. Hilliard and Metcalf, 1817. 8vo. 23 pp.

"The necessity, objects, and influence of moral philosophy," form the subject-matter of this able and eloquent address. The *necessity* of a scientific investigation of "the principles and obligations of duty," is vindicated and enforced with great comprehensiveness of view and cogency of argument; the *objects* of moral science are justly apprehended—and the *influence* attributable to the cultivation of that science, not only through the medium of systematic lectures and formal precept, but also by means of the various sorts of fiction and history, whether in prose or poetry, is traced with a fine discernment of moral causes, and exemplified and illustrated with striking beauty of conception and felicity of application.

The following extracts from the address are given, not only as specimens of elegant English composition, highly honourable to the taste and academic discipline of the learned professor, but also as examples of just thinking, not less honourable to his head, and heart.

"It has often been said, the heart is the best casuist, and its natural promptings the safest guides in duty. But in respect to this objection it must be carefully remembered, that we are not to form our estimate of the value of natural conscience from the prevalent opinions of civilized and christian countries. The moral sense of the most unlearned at the present day is not the sense of nature, but of cultivation; it has been modified by the studies and experience of ages, and, above all, by the christian religion. It is not denied, that we have from nature a moral as well as an intellectual capacity; but the former, no less than the latter, is to be improved and enlarged by observation and thought. Many duties arise from relations, which are complicated and remote; these relations must be investigated and brought together, and general principles, which may be settled into rules, deduced from them. The necessity of this is sufficiently shown by the different and contradicting maxims of duty that have prevailed in different ages and nations. Were however the original suggestions of uncultivated conscience far clearer and more decisive than experience will allow us to believe, still the necessity of philosophy would not be superseded. The unremitted labours of the moralist would, notwithstanding, be required to relieve the sentiments of mankind from those associations of prejudice, of fashion, and of false opinion, which have so constant an influence in perverting the judgment and corrupting the heart, and to bring them back to the unbiassed dictates of nature and common sense. Besides, the moral constitution of man, his relations, and duties, are subjects too interesting, and too fruitful of remark, to be neglected in the speculations of the ingenious and inquiring. Erroneous theories will be formed, nay, they will be presented to mankind as the rule of life, and even history and fiction be made vehicles of principles, dangerous alike to virtue and to peace. While indeed these speculations of false philosophy are wrapped in metaphysical subtleties, they may excite little alarm, and serve rather to amuse the learned; they are those eccentrick lightnings that play harmlessly in the evening cloud; but when they are made the maxims of common life, or, embodied in popular fiction, find their way into the hearts of men, they are these same lightnings concentrated and brought down to earth, blasting and consuming."

Under the third branch of his discourse, in noticing the means by which ethical opinions are diffused, and the effects of theory are brought out in conduct, professor Frisbie thus speaks of the moral influence of polite literature.

"Those compositions in poetry and prose, which constitute the literature of a nation, the essay, the drama, the novel, it cannot be doubted, have a most extensive and powerful operation upon the moral feelings and character of the age. The

very business of the authors of such works is directly or indirectly with the heart. Even descriptions of natural scenery owe much of their beauty and interest to the moral associations they awaken. In like manner fine turns of expression or thought often operate more by suggestion than enumeration. But when feelings and passions are directly described, or embodied in the hero and called forth by the incidents of a story, it is then, that the magick of fiction and poetry is complete, that they enter in and dwell in the secret chambers of the very soul, moulding it at will. In these moments of deep excitement, must not a bias be given to the character, and much be done to elevate and refine, or degrade and pollute those sympathies and sentiments which are the sources of much of our virtue and happiness, or our guilt and misery? The danger is that, in such cases, we do not discriminate the distinct action of associated causes. Even in what is presented to the senses, we are aware of the power of habitual combination. An object naturally disagreeable, becomes beautiful, because we have often seen the sun shine or the dew sparkle upon it, or it has been grouped in a scene of peculiar interest. Thus the powers of fancy and of taste blend associations in the mind which disguise the original nature of moral qualities. A liberal generosity, a disinterested self devotion, a powerful energy or deep sensibility of soul, a contempt of danger and death are often so connected in story with the most profligate principles and manners, that the latter are excused and even sanctified by the former. The impression, which so powerfully seizes all the sympathies, is one; and the ardent youth becomes almost ambitious of a character he ought to abhor. So too sentiments, from which in their plain form delicacy would revolt, are insinuated with the charms of poetical imagery and expression; and even the coarseness of Fielding is probably less pernicious than the seducing refinement of writers like Moore; whose voluptuous sensibility steals upon the heart and corrupts its purity, as the moon beams, in some climates, are believed to poison the substances on which they fall.

"But in no productions of modern genius is the reciprocal influence of morals and literature more distinctly seen than in those of the author of Childe Harold. His character produced the poems, and it cannot be doubted, that his poems are adapted to produce such a character. His heroes speak a language supplied not more by imagination than consciousness. They are not those machines, that, by a contrivance of the artist, send forth a musick of their own; but instruments, through which he breathes his very soul, in tones of agonized sensibility that cannot but give a sympathetick impulse to those who hear. The desolate misanthropy of his mind rises and throws its dark shade over his poetry, like one of his own ruined castles; we feel it to be sublime, but we forget, that it is a sublimity it cannot have till it is abandoned by every thing that is kind, and peaceful, and happy, and its halls are ready to become the haunts of outlaws and assassins. Nor are his more tender and affectionate passages those to which we can yield ourselves without a feeling of uneasiness. It is not that we can here and there select a proposition formally false or pernicious; but that he leaves an impression unfavourable to a healthful state of thought and feeling, peculiarly dangerous to the finest minds and most susceptible hearts. They are the scene of a summer evening, where all is tender and beautiful and grand; but the damps of disease descend with the dews of heaven, and the pestilent vapours of night are breathed in with the fragrance and balm, and the delicate and fair are the surest victims of the exposure."

After reading this passage, we should feel inclined to urge the *expediency*, if not the *necessity*, of cultivating moral science, though it were only for the gratification of taste, and the excitement of pleasurable emotions, without any reference to the ascertainment of duty, or the illumination of the conscience.

"How charming is divine philosophy!
"Not harsh and crabb'd, as dull fools suppose,
"But musical as is Apollo's lute,
"And a perpetual feast of nectar'd sweets,
"Where no crude surfeit reigns."

We cannot but congratulate Harvard upon the establishment of the Alford Chair, and the accession of a lecturer so well calculated to grace it.

L.

Female Scripture Biography, including an Essay on what Christianity has done for Women. By Francis Augustus Cox, A. M. New-York. James Eastburn & Co. 2 vols. 12mo. pp. 642.

The object of this work is an interesting one—to delineate the private and domestic life and character of the exemplary women who are brought to our notice in the sacred Scriptures; and, from the contemplation of their principles and conduct, to deduce lessons and motives for the guidance and governance of females of every station at the present day. With this aim the author has proceeded to infer the dispositions and circumstances of the subjects of his memoirs, from the few but forcible facts which are related of them in the Bible. As far as we have been able to examine his work, he appears to have illustrated the history of the times to which he recurs, and of the individuals of whom he has endeavoured to trace the biography, with no little learning and ingenuity. Whilst we confess that we have not yet been able to bestow on these volumes that attention which they merit, we feel warranted, from the passages we have read, in recommending them to the perusal, not only of those for whose use they seem principally designed, but of all who are desirous of improving themselves in rational views of religion, and what is preliminary and essential to the attainment of those views, in the habit of reasoning for themselves in matters pertaining as well to practice as to faith. It is in this light we particularly commend this work. By enter-

ing into the situation of the persons whose deeds and sayings are recorded in Scripture, by considering their education and opportunities, and the condition of the times in which they lived, we are led to estimate their piety and morality at its proper rate, to judge how far they are fit examples for us, and to understand the true intent and application of the precepts enjoined upon them. It is well known that the sacred writers have always accommodated their language to the ignorance and prejudices of the age in which they wrote, and to know the extent of that ignorance, and the nature of those prejudices, is important to the right interpretation of the divine commandments. It is of the highest moment to distinguish between the moral and the ceremonial law, between the eternal ordinances of God and the local or temporary edicts of the Jewish theocracy. To discern between injunctions of so different effect, yet promulged from the same high source, and with the same solemnity, requires the exercise of the reasoning faculty. Indeed the reason of mankind is continually appealed to in the Bible; it is only as reasonable and reasoning creatures that they can have an interest in its promises, or be affected by its denunciations. Reason is therefore legitimately employed in weighing the force and ascertaining the spirit of Scriptural language. We must resort to the same aid to enable us to appreciate the merit of scripture characters. The sacred writers often state the facts, and leave the reader to make the comment. The sacrifice of his daughter by Jepthah, in fulfilment of an impious vow, is no where reprehended in the Bible—yet can any one doubt how the holy penman regarded the act? David is called *a man after God's own heart*, though there are instances recorded of his depravity; and Soloman is termed the *wisest of men*, whilst numerous evidences are exhibited of his folly—but is any one at a loss to comprehend the real meaning of the writer? In the best men there are faults, which it is as incumbent on others to avoid as to imitate their excellences. Any one who, in contempt of the dictates of his judgment and conscience, should pretend to assume David or Solomon as his model, for the purpose of gratifying his lusts, would sin still more heinously than he who should pursue his illicit pleasures in open defiance of the interdict.

There is but one perfect examplar—Jesus Christ. Yet we are not servilely to copy him. It should be our endeavour to imbibe a liberal portion of his spirit, and to effuse it, as freely as it is imparted, on all those occasions which present themselves in our sphere of life. It is neither necessary nor proper for men to ape the attributes of Deity—to assume his providence, or to affect his ubiquity. All that is required of an ordinary mortal who is forced to toil for his subsistence, is to practice virtue in the lot to which he is called. To take upon him the office of the Saviour, and of those whom he has ordained as his ministers, is unbecoming and presumptuous. To 'go about' to preach the word, or even 'to do good,' is to desert his duties at home. Were all Christians to set up for apostles, pestilence and famine would soon put an end to the propagation of the Gospel.

Even the demeanour of the patriarchs and prophets, or of the primitive disciples, is not to be adopted by every christian. In seasons of persecution it is commendable to carry openly the external indications of one's religious persuasion—but when religion becomes a 'a garment of praise,' an ostentatious display of it, is, like every other foppery, disgusting. To cultivate a decorous and unaffected deportment, neither austere nor relaxed, neither repulsive nor familiar, should be the endeavour of every friend of religion. The crown of righteousness is not necessarily a crown of thorns; and wry faces are a very unnatural indication of peace with God and charity with all mankind. To use the bounties of Providence as not abusing them, to enjoy the good things of this life without suffering them to wean our affections from Him who bestows them all, to possess a contented and grateful heart, and to diffuse cheerfulness and generous feelings amongst our friends and neighbours, are as consonant with Christianity as prayer and alms-giving. The love of God ought undoubtedly to predominate over every affection which comes into competition with it, but it can hardly be exercised as an abstract sentiment. We love God only as our benefactor, and supremely as our supreme benefactor—but to love the giver and to despise his gifts, to crave blessings and contemn the boons which heaven is pleased to confer, is strangely inconsistent, not to say absurd. It is our duty to convert every talent put into our hands to its proper account. He who has not created any thing in vain, has not implanted in the human breast a single desire which it is not lawful in some mode to indulge—and that man who will rather extirpate a passion than

regulate it, commits a mental violence as offensive as the mutilation of his body.

It is not the interest of the friends of religion to draw a line of distinction between them and the world—nor the province of pastors to obstruct the narrow path to the fold. The physician of the soul should not study to make his potion bitter. Community of religious feeling may result from community of feeling on other topics—and when a little more of life shall be carried into religion, a great deal more of religion will probably be carried into life. E.

A letter addressed to Cadwallader D. Colden, Esq. in answer to the strictures contained in his "Life of Robert Fulton," upon the report of the select committee, to whom was referred a memorial relative to steam navigation, presented to the Legislature of New-York, at the session of 1814, with an Appendix, &c. by William Alexander Duer, Esq. printed at Albany, by E. and E. Hosford, pp. 127.

Mr. Duer was the chairman of the Committee referred to in the preface, and which had made a report, and proposed a Bill hostile to the exclusive right of Messrs. Livingston and Fulton, to navigate the waters of this State by steam, or at least to the ample form in which that right is enjoyed, and the extraordinary privileges by which it is protected. The points of collision between Mr. Duer and Mr. Colden, naturally relate to the great questions of legal right and legislative policy embraced by this subject, and the merits of the various claimants to the honour, and we may add, emolument, resulting from the greatest improvement of modern times, the introduction of steam-boats. These are matters without the legitimate limits of our jurisdiction, and we certainly shall not treat of them in this summary and informal manner. The letter in question is written with much spirit and ability. It betrays a strong personal feeling, although the expression of it is in the main decorous and gentlemanly. Mr. Duer's style has probably been formed by his habits of life, and in reading this production one is continually reminded of a law argument, or an address to the Legislature. It contains, however, a luminous statement of facts and arguments, and will be read with much pleasure by those who feel an interest in the subject.* D.

* We would also refer to a "Short account of the origin of Steam Boats," a small pamphlet published by W. Thornton, Esq. the presiding officer in the Patent Office, in 1814.

Letters from the South, written during an excursion in the summer of 1816. By the author of John Bull and Brother Jonathan, &c. &c. New-York. James Eastburn and Co. 1817. 2 vols. 8vo. 514 pp.

We have been much gratified with this book. Although there is too often an unsuccessful effort at wit, yet there are many happy sallies; and though the style is sometimes debased by phrases unnecessarily vulgar, and allusions, not so much familiar and striking, as they are low and unseemly, yet on the whole it is easy, animated, and nervous. The letters purport to have been written from Virginia, and the subjects on which they touch are various and interesting; but the principal object of the publication seems to have been to delineate the Virginian character, which the author having been born and bred, as far north as the State of New-York, if we may judge from the internal evidence furnished by his letters, and being a man of generous sentiments and much knowledge, not to say a scholar, and acquainted with men and things, is well qualified to do. He was kindly entertained by the Virginians, and has repaid their hospitality, not with flattery, for he has indicated their faults as well as held up their virtues, but with just and honest praise. His remarks on character and manners, which are numerous, and suggested by an extensive and vigilant observation of his countrymen, are in our opinion accurate and instructive; they abound with good sense and patriotic feeling; and if his wisdom has put on a merry guise, it is not for that reason, the less wisdom, while by avoiding all austerity of manner, he has fitted his book for the perusal of those who most need the advice it contains, to a much greater extent than he would if he had been more grave and elaborate.

As a specimen of the caustic humour of the author, and also with the hope that it may prove useful, we give the following portrait of a certain class of young men of fashion. It is sketched with spirit, and may, it is to be regretted, be appropriated by numbers in all our more considerable towns.

"But little D———, on the contrary, was determined to be a gentleman, according to the fashionable idea of the present day in our cities. As he was to be rich, there was no occasion for him to know any thing—but how to enjoy it like a gentleman. He accordingly took his degree as the first dunce in the college; and the first thing he did on coming to the possession of nearly half a million, was to send out his measure for a suit of clothes to a London tailor. He forthwith en-

listed himself under some tavern bucks, and strutted up and down ——— with a surtout which saved the Corporation the trouble of sweeping the streets—was seen every where at public places and parties, without doing any thing but yawn at the one, and stand in every body's way in the other, eating pickled oysters. His estimate of a party, where a man of feeling and refinement would go to enjoy elegant society, and rational amusement, was always founded on the quantity of porter, wine, and pickled oysters, handed round. Never was he known, on any occasion, to do any one thing either pleasing or useful—and, of course, in a little time he attained to the reputation of a fine gentleman; because, as he never did any thing, he must needs be so; employment being unworthy that high character. Some of the best bred people doubted his pretensions, until he thought of finding fault with every thing he heard and saw, when the opinion of his high breeding became unanimous.

Whether the people got tired of him, or he grew tired of the people, I don't exactly know; but in order to get a new gloss, he went abroad, staid six months, and came back vastly improved; for he found this country more intolerable than ever—a sure sign of excessive refinement, especially as he made a point of proclaiming his opinion aloud at all parties. When I was last at N——— I saw him in a book-store, reading a book upside down, and dressed as follows: to wit, one little hat, with a steeple crown; one pair of corsetts; one coat, so tight he could just breathe; one pair of pantaloons, so immeasurably wide and loose you could hardly tell whether they were petticoats or not; I don't recollect the residue of his costume—but his hair came out from beneath his hat like an ostrich's tail, and he stuck out behind like the African Venus. No doubt the ladies found him quite irresistible.

"One might moralize and speculate on what had been the different estimation of these young men, at least hereafter, had they pursued a course becoming their fortune and education, and devoted themselves to a useful or brilliant career. Had they employed part of their fortunes, and their leisure, in adorning their minds, and encouraging a taste for refined, elegant, and scientific pursuits, although perhaps they might not have attained to any lofty eminence, they would have become associated, at least, with those that were eminent. They might have become their patrons, if not their equals, and attained to a blameless, nay, noble immortality, as the munificent encouragers of genius; instead of being in their lives, the contempt of the virtuous and the wise; and in their deaths, the companions of oblivion."

The author's remarks on Charitable Societies are, we think, eminently just. If there be any one evil in our community that cries out for extirpation more than another, it is the increase of pauperism, principally assignable to the manner in which alms are distributed by public charities, as the cause. On this subject, the following observations must be confessed by all to contain too much truth to be lightly overlooked. The author had been charged by his friend and correspondent, with "cherishing a confirmed antipathy to charitable institutions, and especially to those venerable married ladies, and thrice venerable spinsters, who go about our cities like roaring lions, doing good." To this charge the author thus replies:

"Here, too, you mistake me. I only objected to the infinite number of these institutions, which are placed solely under the direction of women, whose easiness of belief, and want of experience of the various disguises under which the vicious practise on the credulity of the charitable, render them incompetent to such a delicate task. I am satisfied that this almost indiscriminate charity causes far more misery than it alleviates; panders to vice and immorality, by taking from the labouring class the strongest inducement to industry and economy, namely, the conviction that these alone would keep them from starving; by rendering it easier to get relief by begging than by work; and finally, by giving a sort of respectability to pauperism and beggary, which destroys the salutary contempt we used to feel towards those now right honourable and thriving professions. The moment you make beggary a tolerably respectable calling; the moment you relieve it from the tax which it pays to society, by being despised; that moment you create armies of Lazarones, and convert the idle and the indolent, whom the sense of shame had hitherto deterred, into sturdy beggars. When I was last in your city, where there is a society for the relief of every thing, I was struck with the bold and confident air which pauperism had assumed, which I suppose partly arose from the unwonted respectability of the dress it had assumed. Formerly, it was necessary for a beggar to be both ragged and dirty, and to exhibit the strongest symptoms of inability to work. But during the period of my visit, I was several times accosted by stout, hearty fellows, who under pretence they could not get work, begged without a blush. The friend with whom I stayed, complained to me that there was hardly a day in which he was not called on for charitable contributions, either to relieve somebody, or to convert the Hindoos, or Hottentots, by some of those good ladies I spoke of, who are such sturdy beggars that there is no refusing them. One day, as I was sitting alone in the drawing-room, thinking about matters and things in general, I was roused by a most confident rap at the door. On opening it, a smart dressed young lady tripped in. Professing a great respect for the sex, I bowed most profoundly, and invited her into the parlour. The moment she sat down, without being asked her wishes, and with the air of a demand rather than a request, she told me that her mother being in want of ten dollars, she had come with Miss ———'s compliments, and a request that I would let her have the money! Now Miss ——— was secretary, or treasurer, I forget which, to several charitable institutions, and exceedingly potent in the beau monde; so I paid the ten dollars, to escape the "terrible areopagus" of the tea-table. The young lady took the money, with the air of receiving her due rather than a favour; slightly lisped 'Obliged to you, Sir—*Ma* can now send me to a dancing-school this winter'—and slid out of the room with a right fashionable air. Ten dollars—laid up in heaven! thought I.

"I had scarcely recommenced my cogitations, when there was another rap at the door, and a most respectable looking matron was shown in, who handed me a subscription-book for raising money for the support of missionaries among the Hottentots. I asked her, with all the respect I

could assume, whether all the poor Indians of this country were converted? Whether the soul of a Pottawottomy was not as well worth saving as that of a Hottentot? And whether their duty to God and their country would not be quite as well fulfilled, by converting dangerous and bloody savages at our doors, into mild and peaceable Christian neighbours, as by going to the East for that purpose? 'Lord, Sir,' replied the lady, 'nobody thinks of matters so near at home. Besides, the Missionary Magazines, and Reviews, don't say half as much about our Indians as they do about the Hottentots and Hindoos.' This was conclusive; so I paid my contribution for the conversion of the poor Hottentots, in hopes of getting into the Missionary Magazine.

"After this rencontre I went out, leaving directions with the servant to note if any suspicious persons knocked in my absence. On my return he informed me that six ladies, with subscription-books, had called during the remainder of the morning.

"I hope by this time you begin to comprehend what I mean; to wit, that the distribution of public charities ought to be in the hands of public officers, acquainted with the world, and able to detect imposture of every kind. It will then be bestowed with a wariness and circumspection, which, while it operates as far as is possible to the relief of virtuous distress, does not encourage and pamper idleness and debauchery. I can hardly believe these good ladies, to whose desire to do good I give every due praise, do really benefit mankind by taking from the pockets of the good to bestow on the worthless."

The sentiments of these letters, with which we least accord, are those in regard to the cultivation of the physical sciences. On this subject the author has allowed his satire to flow too freely, and in his reprehension of the follies of philosophers, has indulged a contemptuous manner toward some of the greatest and most deserving men of the age, entirely unjust to them, and altogether unworthy the general liberality of his views and magnanimity of his feelings.

Our author's account of the paper-money system of this country, contains a great deal of mournful and momentous truth, and cannot be too effectual in exciting our citizens to ponder upon the consequences of that rabid spirit of speculation, which has already commenced its devastations, and is going on to shake our social fabric to its deepest foundations.

The genius of our author is not a little versatile; he can, with much ease and grace, pass from the sarcastic and indignant reprehension of vice, or the sprightly and cutting raillery of folly, to the most deep-felt enjoyment and poetical description of the retired and tranquil scenes of nature, or the delineation of the mild, benignant, and placid features of domestic life. As a beautiful specimen of his power in the pathetic, we cannot resist the temptation to quote the following short account of the life, character, and death of a Quaker lady. After some excellent, racy remarks on the manners and character so frequently assumed by young clergymen, the author thus indulges his contemplative mood.

"Having two or three hours to spare till dinner, we rambled about the church-yard, reading the records of mortality, which, though every where confined to a few simple items, concerning a few insignificant people, are always interesting. They are the history of high and low; and none can read them without being impressed with a conviction that all are his brothers at last—for all die. He who moulders below was born,—and died; and whether rich, or a beggar, his short history is that of kings. The struggles of restless ambition, the reverses of the great, and the story of the wreck of lofty pride, we read as an interesting romance, addressing itself solely to the imagination: but when a monarch or a hero dies, he becomes our equal; his death is an example equally with that of the meanest mortal; and we here realize our common nature, and common end.

"While poring over these tombstones, our attention was attracted by a long cavalcade, on foot, on horseback, and in carriages of various kinds, winding slowly over one of the hills at a distance. It came towards the church-yard, entered it, and stopt at a large oak, under which was a newly dug grave we had not noticed before. The people of the village were attracted by it, and came up, one after another, until there were, I suppose, two hundred, men, women, and children, gathered together. Without a whisper, except that of the oaks around, the coffin was taken from the wagon, lowered into the grave, and covered with earth. I never witnessed a silence more solemn and affecting; and beautiful as is our church funeral service, I will venture to say it never raised a feeling of more deep and awful devotion than that which impressed the dead silence around. There was no need of saying "dust to dust:" every clod of earth, as it fell hollowly on the coffin, proclaimed that; neither was any proof wanting that "man who is born of a woman," must die, for a thousand little hillocks around gave silent testimony to the fact. When the mound over the grave was smoothed with pious care, a little buzzing ran through the crowd—and as it slowly separated, some ventured to talk about the deceased person, who was, I found, a Quaker lady, who died—as others die, of some common malady or other. She was neither a belle nor a beauty;—no crowd ever followed her at a ball, nor could I learn that she had ever received a single offer of marriage, except from the person we had left still standing by her grave. Yet there was something in the story I learned of her, that affected me, I can hardly tell why, for it was not the least romantic.

"It seems that her husband, in consequence of imprudence or misfortune, had several years before been confined in a prison for debt, leaving a family of eight children destitute. By the rare magic of industry and economy united, this woman, by her own labours, kept the little ones together,—fed, clothed, and sent them to school, until the gaol accidentally took fire, and the prisoner walked home. Here he afterward remained unmolested, for the

virtue of his wife had sanctified his person. There is a species of calm, persevering, courageous, and unconquerable industry, that gets the better even of fate. Such, it seems, was the industry of this valuable woman, and it was rewarded even in this world. She lived, God bless her,—to see her husband independent, and to share many years of independence with him. She reared all her children, saw them honourably settled, and heard the old people say, that whatever had been her sacrifices for them, they had repaid her, by their dutiful affection, and exemplary conduct. Then when she at last died, neither poet made her an angel, nor newspaper eulogy a saint; but the neighbours,—the *neighbours*, followed her to the grave without uttering a word,—and the husband and children stood round it with their faces covered.

"Now, if this little true story wants a moral, I think it will easily be found. For my part, I cannot help believing this simple Quaker woman was a more valuable being, and fulfilled her duties far more to the benefit of society, than if she had been a member of as many charitable societies as aunt Kate.—and had refused as many fools as a lady I once heard of in Virginia. I must own too, that I consider her silent, unobtrusive, suffering, fire-side virtue, as far preferable to the public and ostentatious newspaper charity, which, in the present time, stalks bravely forth, and beckons every worthless vagabond to its shrine from Europe, Asia, Africa, and America."

There are numerous grammatical errors, which we are surprised should have escaped the notice of the author, and an occasional slovenliness of style that looks like affectation; still, we think the "Letters from the South," well calculated to strengthen the bonds of our union by weakening sectional prejudice, and rendering all parts of our country mutually amiable in the eyes of Americans; and we cordially recommend it to general perusal. L.

The Balance of Comfort; or, the Old Maid and Married Woman. A Novel. By Mrs. Ross, author of the Marchioness, &c. &c. 2 vols. New-York. 1817.

Something superior to the mass of similar publications, our readers must not expect to meet with many traits of superlative excellence in the volumes before us. Indications of a tolerably extensive, if not very delicate and discriminating, acquaintance with the ordinary varieties of every-day life, are by no means unfrequent; and the facility and liveliness with which they are touched off, would be amusing enough, were the outlines more gracefully sketched, and the tints deeper and more determinate. With the dignified incident and diction of the higher class of modern novels, it would be ridiculous to compare a production, which the authoress evidently intended to occupy its unambitious station by the side of her former publications. Her representations of low character are drawn with a vigour and facetiousness that evince her familiarity with the species; but in her delineations from the polished world, she is often and obviously *at fault*, continually mistaking vulgar grossness and rough raillery for elegant wit and refined humour: throughout her attempts of this description, there is too much *horse-play*; while occasionally, she rushes into scenes, and ventures upon allusions very suitable indeed to the pages of Tom Jones and Roderick Random, but altogether inconsistent with that chasteness of sentiment, and delicacy of language, which ought to characterize the the works of female writers.

G.

The Essence of English Grammar, by Samuel Houston, A. B. Principal of Rural Valley Seminary in Rockbridge, Virginia. Harrisonburg, Lawrence Wartmann. 12 mo. pp. 49.

This *essence* of English Grammar, as distilled through the alembic of Mr. Houston's brain, is a product as different from the material, as whiskey is from rye. After whose prescription "it was composed," (to borrow an expression of the author, when speaking of *elegant composition*,) we know not, but imagine that the diligent and exclusive study of Hannah Glasse's *recipes* might enable one to produce something very like it.

E.

A Grammar of Moral Philosophy, and Natural Theology, with a summary of the Evidences of Christianity, abstracted chiefly from the works of Dr. Paley. To which are subjoined Questions and Tables, adapted to the study of the sacred scriptures. By the Rev. J. W. Baker. New-York, David Longworth, 12mo. 248 pp.

This is a judicious abstract, bringing into small compass and in a discreet arrangement, much of the most important matter on the subjects treated, and would form a good text-book for the older and more advanced scholars in our principal schools. L.

Longworth's Pocket Almanack, and New-York and United States Kalendar, for 1818. New-York, David Longworth, 32mo.

This is a very convenient Register, comprising much information of every-day use.

THE TOUCHSTONE, or WORLD AS IT

GOES; a Comedy in four acts, as performed at the Theatre Royal, Drury-Lane. By James Kenny, New-York, DAVID LONGWORTH, 12mo. pp. 77.

THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR, a Comedy, in five acts, as performed at the Theatres Royal, Drury-Lane and Covent-Garden. By William Shakspeare. New-York, DAVID LONGWORTH, 12mo. pp. 75.

ELPHI BEY, or THE ARAB'S FAITH, a Musical Drama, in three acts, as performed at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. By R. Hamilton. New-York, DAVID LONGWORTH, 12mo. pp. 53.

THE DEVIL'S BRIDGE, an Opera, in three acts. By Samuel James Arnold. New-York, DAVID LONGWORTH, 12mo. pp. 57.

LOVE IN A VILLAGE, a Comic Opera, in three acts. By Isaac Bickerstaff. New-York, DAVID LONGWORTH, 12mo. pp. 64.

ART. 15. MATHEMATICAL LUCUBRATIONS.

Solution to Ques. 5, by Mr. Shannessy of Albany.

Let the co-efficient of $x = s$, and that of $y = 1$: whence 'tis evident that the co-efficient n of the second term of the given formula is $= s + \frac{1}{s} \therefore s^2 - ns = -1$, whence by completing the square, &c. $s = \frac{n}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{n}{4}^2 - 1}$, and therefore the factors required are $\frac{n}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{n^2}{4} - 1} \cdot x - y$ and $+ \frac{1}{\frac{n}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{n^2}{4} - 1} \cdot x - y}$.

Solution to the same, by X. of New-Haven.

If a and b be the roots of the equation $x^2 - uxy + y^2 = o$, $x - a$ and $x - b$ are the factors required; since whatever be the value of the given expression, their product must always be equal to it. To find these roots, we have, by completing the square, $x^2 - uxy + \frac{1}{4} u^2 y^2 = (\frac{1}{4} u^2 - 1) y^2$; from which the roots are found, $\frac{1}{2} uy + y \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} u^2 - 1}$ and $\frac{1}{2} uy - y \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} u^2 - 1}$. Hence the required factors are $x - y \cdot \frac{1}{2} u + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} u^2 - 1}$, & $x - y \cdot \frac{1}{2} u - \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} u^2 - 1}$; which multiplied together will be found to re-produce the given expression.—When $u < 2$, these factors are necessarily imaginary, although the imaginary parts disappear in the product.

Solution to Ques. 6, by M. O'Connor, New-York.

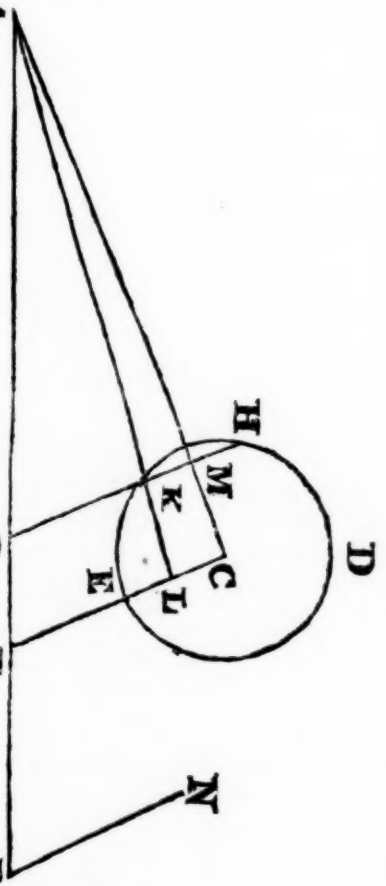
Let x, y and z denote the absciss, ordinate, and curve respective, and $\dot{x}$, $\dot{y}$ and $\dot{z}$ their respective fluxions—put $a = 7354$, and $c = 3.1416$. Then $4ay^2\dot{x} = cy^2\dot{x} =$ the fluxion of the solid, and $2cy\dot{z} =$ the fluxion of the superficies. Now these fluxions, in every position of the generating circle $2cy$ will be in the constant ratio of m to n, because by the question their fluents must be in that ratio; therefore $m : n :: cy^2\dot{x} : 2cy\dot{z} :: y\dot{x} : 2\dot{z}$; hence $2m\dot{z} = my\dot{x}$ but $\dot{z} = \sqrt{\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2}$. Hence by substitution and division $\sqrt{\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2} = \frac{my\dot{x}}{2m}$ By involution, transposition and division, $\dot{x}^2 = \frac{4m^2\dot{y}^2}{n^2y^2 + 4m^2}$. This equation by evolution will be $\dot{x} = \frac{2m\dot{y}}{\sqrt{n^2y^2 + 4m^2}}$ of which the fluents, by notation and form 9th of EMERSON'S table of fluents, are $x = \frac{2m}{n} \times$ hyper. log. of $y + \sqrt{y^2 + \frac{4m^2}{n^2}}$ which is the required equation of the curve.

Solution to the same, by a disciple of Newton.

To find the equation of a curve such, that the contents of the solid, formed by the curve, and ordinate about a variable abscis, shall be in a constant ratio to its curve superficies—Let x be the absciss, and y the ordinate, and let z represent the length of the curve to the abscis x, let $p = 3.1416$; then it is well known that $2pydz$ expresses the differential of the curve superficies, and py^2dx expresses the differential of the solid contents; suppose that the solid is to its curve superficies as m to n, then since this proportion is constant, it follows that $py^2dx : 2pydz :: m : n \therefore ydxn = 2dzm$, whence $ydx \times \frac{n}{2m} = dz$ let $\frac{n}{2m} = a$ then we have $ydxa = dz = \sqrt{dy^2 + dx^2} \therefore y^2dx^2a^2 = dy^2 + dx^2$ whence $(y^2a^2 - 1)\, dx^2 = dy^2$ and $dx = \frac{dy}{\sqrt{y^2a^2 - 1}} = \frac{dy}{a\sqrt{y^2 - \frac{1}{a^2}}}$ whose integral gives $x = \frac{hl\,(y + \sqrt{y^2 - \frac{1}{a^2}})}{a}$ which needs no correction; for when $y = ox = hl\frac{1}{a}\sqrt{-1} =$ an imaginary quantity,

therefore $x=\frac{hl(y+\sqrt{y^2-\frac{1}{a^2}})}{a}$ the equation of the curve. The expression for the solidity of the solid, generated by the revolution of the above curve, about its axis, equals $\frac{p}{2a}(ay\sqrt{y^2a^2-1}+hl(y+\sqrt{y^2-\frac{1}{a^2}})$ the curve superficies $=\frac{p}{a^2}(ay\sqrt{y^2a^2-1}+hl(y+\sqrt{y^2-\frac{1}{a^2}})$ The length of the curve $z=\frac{\sqrt{a^2y^2-1}}{a}$ and its area $=\frac{\sqrt{a^2y^2-1}}{a^2}$.

Solution to Question 7, by a disciple of Newton.



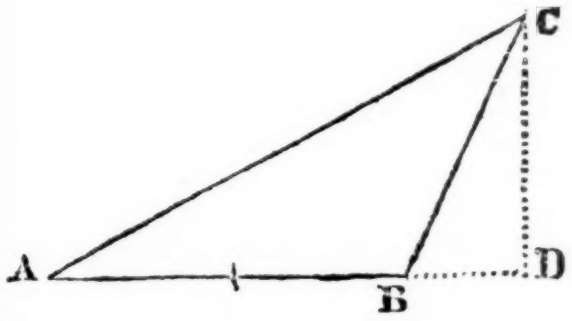
Let D E be the given circle, and A B the right line given in position. At the point B, in the right line A B, let the angle A B N be made equal to the given angle, through the centre, C, draw C F parallel to B N, and draw C A perpendicular to C F, meeting A B in A′, divide C F into two parts in L, so that it may be $FL:CL::n:\frac{m-n}{2}$ then join A′L, intersecting the circle in K, through K draw H M K G parallel to C F, then H M K G will be the line required; for since M G is parallel to C F, one side of the triangle A F C, and is cut by A′L, we shall have $FL:CL::GK:KM\therefore GK:KM::N:\frac{m-n}{2}\therefore GK:2KM::n:m-n$, but 2KM=KH for A′C being perpendicular to the chord K H bisects it $\therefore$ G K : K H :: $n:m-n$, and (per composition) G K : G M + K H :: $n:m$, that is G K : G H :: $n:m$ and G H : G K :: $m:n$.....Q E I.

Solution to Question 8, by M. O'Conner, New-York.

Since the sun's declination, July 4th, 1817, is 22° 55′, it is plain that the sun's central ray on that day describes a cone of which the vertex is at the earth's centre, whose axis is coincident with that of the earth, and whose side forms with its axis at said vertex an ∠ of 67° 05′. Taking the lat. of N. York=40° 48′, its comp. 49° 17′ = the ∠ the horizon of N. York makes with the cone's base, and this ∠ being greater than 22° 55′ (= sun's declination) the ∠ which the cone's side makes with its base, the intersection of the cone and said horizon must be an hyperbola; and all cones described by the same ray must evidently be similar, and cut by the same horizon, must produce like curves. Now the ∠ which the sun's meridional ray makes with the horizon in a meridional direction is = the supplement of half the cone's vertical ∠ added to the lat. of N. York = 72° 12′ = the sun's altitude at noon. And since the earth's radius is very small compared with its distance from the sun, the solar ray, which by means of the summit of the edifice marks the vertex of the given transverse axis, may be regarded as coincident with and equal to the said meridional central ray, the former and latter necessarily make one and the same ∠ of 72° 12′ with said horizon. Now this ray, during the time it describes the curve of which the axis is given, describes portions of two opposite cones, which have their common vertex at the summit of the edifice, and it is the intersection of the horizon with the northern cone that forms the curve in question, which, as we have shown, must be an hyperbola; also, these cones are similar to the first cone, and the horizon cuts them at the same angles as the first. And the distance on the plane of the horizon in the direction of the meridian between the points when said plane meets the cones, is the given transverse axis. Imagine a vertical plane through the axis of these cones, and its intersection with both and the horizon forms a △ of which two sides are between the horizon and their common vertex; and the 3d, the given axis upon the horizon; in which △ we have given, besides the axis, the △ at the vertex = twice the sun's declination = 45° 50′, and one of the angles at the horizon = the supplement of 72° 12′ the sun's altitude = 107.48, to find by trigonometry

the side between said △ and the vertex. Thus, sin. 45° 50′ : sin. 26° 22′ :: 250 feet : 154.8 feet; and lastly, radius 1 : sin. sun's altitude 72° 12′ :: 154.8 feet : 147.4 feet, the required height.

Solution to the same, by B. M'Gowan, New-York.



Upon a base=transverse axes, of the curve *a* △ whose vertical ∠ shall equal 2X sun's declination, and one of the angles at the base=sum of latitude, and sun's polar distance, the perpendicular let fall from vertical angle upon the base (produced if necessary) shall be the height of the tower.

Calculation, As sine 22° 55′ × Rads. 19 355711.

: 49° 18′ — 22° 55′ × sine 49° 18′ × 22° 15′. 19 626486.

:: Transverse axes, 250 feet, 2 397940

: Height required, 147 5 feet.

PRIZE QUESTION

TO BE ANSWERED IN THE APRIL NUMBER.

By Michael Ward, near Sligo, Ireland.

It is required to determine geometrically an arc of a given circle, such that its sine may be equal to the excess of its secant above the radius.

ART. 16. REPORT OF DISEASES TREATED AT THE PUBLIC DISPENSARY, NEW-YORK, DURING THE MONTH OF NOV. 1817.

ACUTE DISEASES.

FEBRIS Intermittens, *(Intermittent Fever,)* 1; Febris Remittens, *(Remittent Fever,)* 6; Febris Continua, *(Continued Fever,)* 8; Febris Ephemera, *(Ephemeral Fever,)* 1; Febris Infantum Remittens, *(Infantile Remittent Fever,)* 7; Hernia Humoralis, 1; Ophthalmia, *(Inflammation of the Eyes,)* 2; Cynanche Tonsillaris, *(Inflammation of the Throat,)* 4; Catarrhus, *(Catarrh,)* 4; Bronchitis, *(Inflammation of the Bronchiæ,)* 1; Pneumonia, *(Inflammation of the Chest,)* 8; Enteritis, *(Inflammation of the Intestines,)* 4; Rheumatismus Acutus, *(Acute Rheumatism,)* 1; Urticaria, *(Nettle Rash,)* 1; Erysipelas, *(St. Anthony's Fire,)* 1; Variola, *(Small Pox,)* 8; Vaccinia, *(Kine Pock,)* 18; Convulsio, *(Convulsions,)* 1.

CHRONIC AND LOCAL DISEASES.

Asthenia, *(Debility,)* 1; Vertigo, 3; Cephalalgia, *(Head-Ach,)* 7; Dyspepsia, *(Indigestion,)* 7; Gastrodynia, *(Pain in the Stomach,)* 2; Obstipatio, 4; Colica, *(Colic,)* 2; Hysteria, *(Hysterics,)* 1; Palpitatio, 1; Hypochondriasis, 1; Ophthalmia Chronica, *(Chronic Inflammation of the Eyes,)* 3; Pharyngitis Chronica, *(Chronic Inflammation of the Throat,)* 2; Catarrhus Chronicus, *(Chronic Catarrh,)* 2; Bronchitis Chronica, 4; Phthisis Pulmonalis, *(Pulmonary Consumption,)* 1; Rheumatismus Chronicus, *(Chronic Rheumatism,)* 6; Pleurodynia, 4; Lumbago, 3; Hæmoptysis, *(Spitting of Blood,)* 1; Menorrhagia, 1; Hæmorrhois, *(Piles,)* 1; Dysenteria Chronica, *(Chronic Disentery,)* 4; Diarrhœa, 7; Leucorrhœa, 1; Amenorrhœa, 3; Dysuria, *(Difficulty of Urine,)* 1; Lithiasis, *(Gravel,)* 1; Anasarca, *(Dropsy,)* 1; Ascites, *(Dropsy of the Abdomen,)* 1; Hydarthrus, *(White Swelling,)* 1; Vermes, *(Worms,)* 2; Syphilis, 11; Urithritis, 4; Phymosis, 1; Hernia Congenita, *(Congenital Hernia,)* 1; Luxatio *(Dislocation,)* 1; Contusio, *(Bruise,)* 12; Ustio, *(Burn,)* 1: Abscessus, *(Abscess,)* 2; Ulcus, *(Ulcer,)* 10; Psoriasis, 1; Urticaria, *(Nettle Rash,)* 1; Erythema, 2; Porrigo, *(Scalled Head,)* 6; Impetigo, 1; Scabies et Prurigo, 18; Eczema Mercuriale, 1; Aphthæ, 1; Eruptiones Variæ, 3.

The temperature of this month has been generally uniform, and exceedingly mild. The winds have been part of the time from N. E. and N. W, but more commonly between S. E. and S. W. There have been some foggy evenings and mornings:—a few inconsiderable rains, and heavy ones on the 1st and 2nd, and on the 17th and 18th; the whole quantity that has fallen nearly 6 inches on a level. The highest temperature of the morning has been 60°, lowest 29°, mean 42°;—highest temperature of the afternoon 59°, lowest 32°, mean 49°.6:—highest temperature of the evening 64°, lowest 30°, mean 47°.6:—greatest diurnal variation

16°:—mean temperature of the month estimated between morning and evening 46°.4′.

Nearly the same constitution of the weather having prevailed in this as in the former month, little alteration has taken place in the state and variety of diseases, or extent of mortality. In the existing multitude of morbid affections, fevers still take the lead. Disorders connected with derangements of the stomach and intestinal canal have also continued to occur, though in rather less proportion; but from the want of sudden and extensive atmospheric variations, complaints of an inflammatory nature have been less frequent than is usual at this time of the year. A typhoid tendency has been the most general character of the acute diseases of this month. Typhous fever still prevails, and with much the same fatality. The infantile remittent, which was formerly described, has, since the commencement of Autumn, assumed in many instances the nature of synochus, and in a few protracted cases has exhibited symptoms of a putrid tendency; being accompanied with a dry brown tongue, weak and quick pulse, violent pains in the head, delirium, or coma, and pains and distension of the stomach or intestines, sometimes with diarrhœa, and sometimes with costiveness.

Small Pox is gradually extending.

One of the cases of urticaria occurred from eating lobsters. As there was much inflammatory fever, bloodletting was necessary, although the stomach and bowels had been well emptied by the early use of evacuants.

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JACOB DYCKMAN, M. D.

New-York, Nov. 30th, 1817.

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THE

AMERICAN MONTHLY MAGAZINE

AND

CRITICAL REVIEW.

No. IV.....Vol. II.

FEBRUARY, 1818.

Art. 1. ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

MEMOIR ON ICHTHYOLOGY.

The Fishes of New-York described and arranged. In a supplement to the Memoir on the same subject, printed in the New-York Literary and Philosophical Transactions, Vol. 1. p 355—492. *By Samuel L. Mitchill.*

[To the 166 species and varieties of fish mentioned in that paper, here is an addition of about 40 more; making considerably above 200 in the whole.]

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APODAL Order.
- Fresh water Eel, 1
- Sea Wolf, 1
- Sword Fish, 1

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JUGULAR—Marginated Cod, 1
- Cod of the Lakes, 1

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- Red Scorpœna, 1
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- Spinous Dory, 1
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- Six-spined Bodian, 1
- Black Eared Pondfish, 1
- Sheepshead Chætodon, 1

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- Rostrated Angler, 1
- Calico Angler, 1
- Radiated Angler, 1
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- Sharp-tailed File-fish, 1
- Narrow tailed File-fish, 1
- Smooth backed Skate, 1
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- Long toothed Shark, 1
- Scarlet Snake fish, 1
- Six-horned Trunk fish, 1

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Total 42

ANGUILLA, EEL.

The Eel of Success Pond was brought to me in an entire state on the 30th April, 1817. From an examination of half a dozen individuals, I was enabled to complete the description. The Lake in which these creatures were found has no connexion with salt water, or any other water. Occasionally from rains, or a deficiency of evaporation, it overflows, and the surplusage of water finds its way to Little Neck Bay, emptying into Long-Island Sound in the Eastern part of the town of Flushing. But there is no evidence of Eels returning from the Sound to the Lake at any time; for the overflow, when it happens, is so scanty that it is merely a gush of a few days duration at most, and so transient that the channel quickly returns to the condition of arable land. The Eels of Success Pond may therefore be considered, in the strict sense of the

16°:—mean temperature of the month estimated between morning and evening 46°.4′.

Nearly the same constitution of the weather having prevailed in this as in the former month, little alteration has taken place in the state and variety of diseases, or extent of mortality. In the existing multitude of morbid affections, fevers still take the lead. Disorders connected with derangements of the stomach and intestinal canal have also continued to occur, though in rather less proportion; but from the want of sudden and extensive atmospheric variations, complaints of an inflammatory nature have been less frequent than is usual at this time of the year. A typhoid tendency has been the most general character of the acute diseases of this month. Typhous fever still prevails, and with much the same fatality. The infantile remittent, which was formerly described, has, since the commencement of Autumn, assumed in many instances the nature of synochus, and in a few protracted cases has exhibited symptoms of a putrid tendency; being accompanied with a dry brown tongue, weak and quick pulse, violent pains in the head, delirium, or coma, and pains and distension of the stomach or intestines, sometimes with diarrhœa, and sometimes with costiveness.

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